

FAX

DATE: Tuesday, April 7, 1998

TO: Michael O'Mary, Office of the First Lady

FAX: 202 4566244

FROM: Katherine Searcy

PAGES: 3

MEMO

TALKING IT OVER

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1998, AND THEREAFTER

Shortly after midnight on the morning of March 25, when my husband and I were in Uganda, we were awakened with tragic news. For the fourth time since October, American children had opened fire on classmates at school.

This time, these tragic events happened in a town we knew well, Jonesboro, Ark. Four young girls and a teacher were dead. Bill and I were heartsick at this senseless loss of life.

Across the country and around the world, the questions were the same: "How could this happen?" and "What does it mean?" On talk shows, in newspaper columns and at kitchen tables, people sought explanations for this outbreak of child violence. The President called on the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to convene national experts to study the tragedy.

But as the shock recedes, we are left with more questions than answers about how to prevent children from harming other children. Despite our inability ever to understand fully, we have to analyze why two young boys turned to violence if we are to find any help for the next child who might choose a gun to deal with his pain and problems.

We must not let ourselves off the hook by talking about "bad children" and "good children." We, the adults, have choices, and we know that the choices we make -- as individuals and as a society -- will affect how our children develop.

Everywhere we look, children are under assault, not just from violence but from neglect, from the breakup of families, from the temptations of alcohol, tobacco, sex and drug abuse, and from greed, materialism and spiritual emptiness. One in five American children lives in poverty. One in four is born to an unmarried mother.

This instability poses great risks to the healthy development and economic security of our children. The disappearance of fathers from children's daily lives has many consequences, including increased rates of violence and aggressiveness among boys. One of the ways to counter the absence of fathers is for adults -- especially men -- to step into the role of mentor and guide.

Clearly, children deserve safety and security at home. Yet, hundreds of thousands of children are victims of abuse and neglect. A recent study shows that children reported abused and neglected are 67 times more likely to be arrested between the ages of 9 and 12 than other children. Buffalo, N.Y.'s Police Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske sums it up

this way: "We'll win the war on crime when we invest tax dollars in America's most vulnerable kids, instead of waiting until they become America's most wanted adults."

One of the best ways to combat juvenile crime is to give kids something positive to do after school. We should follow the example of Houston, Texas, where children play golf and soccer after school. Their mentors are coaches and teachers, not gang leaders.

We also have a responsibility to protect our children at home. Guns are the fourth leading cause of accidental deaths among children ages 5 to 14. Almost half of American households have guns, but often, instead of being locked up, they are merely hidden or left in a drawer.

In addition, we must take weapons off the streets. This week, my husband blocked the import of 58 types of military-style assault weapons into this country. As was the case when he signed the Brady bill, the gun lobbyists and manufacturers assailed the move and threatened to sue.

It's a moral outrage that these lobbyists and manufacturers are fighting this measure while at the same time marketing their products to our children -- just as the tobacco industry has for years. Every self-respecting gun owner should condemn this latest cynical move to turn children into targets of gun advertising before they are emotionally able to handle the responsibility.

And let's not overlook the importance of the mass media. Too many television shows, movies and rock lyrics romanticize and trivialize violence. And video games have managed to transform millions of television sets into scenes of violence that children not only watch but also participate in.

As I have suggested many times, it's time to turn the TV off and spend more time with our kids. Time, after all, is what every child wants and needs. We live in a fast world, where slowing down to spend time with our families is hard to do -- unless we make it a priority.

Our children are our greatest gift, our greatest responsibility, our greatest test. Never again do I want to wake in the middle of the night to the news that another child has murdered a friend or classmate. It's time for us to look into our children's eyes and remember what's important.

We owe this to Shannon Wright, the courageous teacher who sacrificed her life for her students. Her 3-year-old son keeps asking, "Where's Mommy?" We owe this to Natalie Brooks, Paige Ann Herring, Stephanie Johnson, Brittheny Varner and all the other children who have died so tragically on our watch.

**COPYRIGHT 1998 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Chief of Staff

Washington, D.C. 20201

~~FACSIMILE~~

DATE:

6/12/98 / 7/10/98

TO:

Jennifer Klein / Deborah Waxman

FAX#:

456-2878

FROM:

Mary Beth Donahue / Rebecca Werbel
Chief of Staff

Phone: 202/690-7431 Fax: 202/401-5783

COMMENTS:

To follow is the executive summary of the HHS report which was referenced in The Philadelphia Inquirer on May 20, 1998.
Please call me to discuss.

 Pages [including this cover]

Adolescent Time Use, Risky Behavior and Outcomes: An Analysis of National Data

Nicholas Zill, Christine Winquist Nord, and Laura Spencer Loomis

Westat, Inc.

September 11, 1995

For the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Participating in positive, goal-directed activities gives teenagers a chance to develop skills, build character, and sample different fields of human endeavor. It may also lessen their chances of engaging in risky behaviors, such as drug use or delinquency, by occupying idle time, strengthening commitment to school and other conventional institutions, and exposing teens to beneficial peer and adult influences. There has been considerable debate, however, as to how effective youth programs are in preventing misbehavior. More evidence is needed as to how today's teenagers spend their time and whether constructive activities help to deter problem behavior.

The present study made use of several large-scale data bases to examine the time-use patterns of American adolescents in the late 1980s and early 1990s, compare them with those exhibited by young people 10 to 20 years ago, and test whether participation in extracurricular activities reduces the chances that young people will engage in various risky behaviors. The data analyzed came from *Monitoring the Future* (an annual survey of high school seniors), the *Longitudinal Study of American Youth*, the *National Education Longitudinal Study* begun in 1988, and an earlier longitudinal study called *High School and Beyond*. The risky behaviors studied were dropping out of school, having children while still teenagers, being delinquent, smoking, using marijuana or cocaine, and binge drinking.

The study found that U.S. teenagers have a lot of discretionary time available to them and, for most, that time is *not* being filled with activities that build their skills or characters. For example, today's 10th grade students devote on average only one half hour per day to homework. Less than 20 percent of them read for pleasure almost every day, only 15 percent work daily on hobbies, arts, or crafts, and just 5 percent routinely use personal computers for schoolwork or recreation. Less than a third attend religious activities once a week or more, about a fifth participate in youth groups or organized recreational programs that often, and a similar fraction take weekly classes outside of school in music, art, language, or dance. One in eight takes weekly sports lessons outside of school, while one in fourteen volunteers or performs community service activities.

How then do teenagers spend the considerable amounts of free time at their disposal? They watch television (two and a half hours per day, on average); they talk with other teens on the telephone (60 percent say they do so on a daily basis); and they hang out with friends in malls and other neighborhood hangouts (64 percent do this at least one or twice a week). As they get older, they work for pay at

relatively low-skill jobs that do little to prepare them for the more complex and demanding jobs at which they are likely to later work. Sixty percent of U.S. 12th graders and 27 percent of 10th graders do seven or more hours of paid work per week during the school year.

When the study compared adolescent time use in the 1990s with that in the mid-1970s or early 1980s, overall patterns were surprisingly similar. The changes found were mostly in a negative direction as far as constructive use of time was concerned. For example, high school students in 1990 spent no more time doing homework than earlier cohorts did, despite taking courses that were supposedly more rigorous. Teenagers in the 1990s were less likely to read books, do household chores, or attend religious services on a regular basis than their predecessors were. Compared to the early 1980s, fewer students in the 1990s participated in band, orchestra or chorus in school, in traditional hobby clubs such as photography or chess, or in cheerleading or drill team. On the other hand, almost as many went out for varsity sports, and slightly more took part in academic clubs, such as science, computer, or foreign language clubs, math team, or debating society. Overall, however, the increased emphasis on academics that has supposedly dominated American education in recent years has not resulted in much apparent change in intellectual effort or studying behavior among American adolescents.

Not only is the time use of the average American teenager relatively unproductive, there is considerable inequality in the extent to which different groups of teens use their free time in constructive as opposed to idle or detrimental ways. Young people from families with low levels of parent education or family income, who would seem to be most in need of organized skill-building and character-nurturing activities, were found to be least likely to engage in such activities. Likewise, students whose parents were uninvolved in the PTA and other school-related activities did not participate in constructive free-time activities as often, nor spend as much time doing homework, as students with involved parents. Students enrolled in general or vocational/technical programs in high school had much less exposure to extracurricular activities than students enrolled in academic or college-preparatory programs.

The time-use patterns of 10th graders were predictive of what they would be doing one year after high school. Those who were "homework-focused" were twice as likely to be enrolled full-time in postsecondary school as those who were focused on paid employment as 10th graders. Conversely, those in the latter group were twice as likely as those in the former to be employed full time after high school. However, the link between doing more paid work as a teenager and full-time employment as a young adult was weaker than the association between doing more homework and full-time college enrollment. This indicates that the jobs that adolescents hold are not giving them the skills or experience necessary to obtain stable full-time employment after high school.

Time-use patterns of 10th graders were also predictive of whether they would engage in a variety of risky behaviors. For example, compared to those who reported spending 1-4 hours per week in extracurricular activities, students who reported spending no time in school-sponsored activities were 57 percent more likely to have dropped out by the time they would have been seniors, 49 percent more likely to have used drugs, 37 percent more likely to have become teen parents, 35 percent more likely to have smoked cigarettes, and 27 percent more likely to have been arrested. These significant negative relationships were found after controlling for related family, school, and student characteristics such as parent education and income levels, parent involvement in school-related activities, and students' grades. Up to a point, students who spent more time (5-19 hours per week) in extracurricular activities were even less likely to engage in risky behavior. However, there was not as great a deterrent effect among those who spent large amounts of time (20 or more hours per week) in extracurricular pursuits.

One behavior that proved an exception to the rule that extracurricular participation reduced risky conduct

was binge drinking. After other factors were controlled, time in extracurricular activities did not show a significant relationship with underage drinking. The difference may be due to the greater social acceptability of drinking in adult society, compared with cocaine or marijuana use, or to another finding of the study. This was that one form of extracurricular activity -- varsity sports -- actually seemed to predispose young people to binge drinking.

When data on adolescent time use and risky behavior were analyzed separately for males and females, similar relationships were found. One difference was that the deterrent effect of extracurricular participation on teen childbearing was more clearly evident among females than males. Similar relationships were also observed when the number of activities in which students participated was used as a measure of extracurricular involvement instead of hours per week.

Participation in two specific forms of extracurricular activity, varsity sports and music or drama, showed somewhat different relationships to later risky behavior. Students who participated in varsity sports were less likely than non-participants to drop out of school or become smokers by their senior years. On the other hand, student athletes were significantly *more* likely to have engaged in binge drinking, as noted above. Also, male (but not female) athletes were more likely to have become teen parents. By contrast, students who participated in band, orchestra, chorus, or in a school play or musical were significantly less likely than non-participants to engage in nearly all the problem behaviors: dropping out of school, being arrested, becoming smokers, using drugs, or engaging in binge drinking. Female (but not male) performers were also less likely than non-performers to have become teen parents.

The findings indicate that organized youth activities can help to deter risky behavior in adolescence and young adulthood. However, the effectiveness of an activity depends not just on the degree to which it occupies idle time, but also on the extent to which it develops skills, creates challenges, and provides fulfilling experiences for teen participants. It depends as well on the attitudes that other participants have about engaging in specific high-risk behaviors. If the group code encourages some forms of risky behavior, such as binge drinking or sexual promiscuity, participation in the activity may be counterproductive.

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

Getting studied

OF PAGES (including cover) _____

COMMENTS

The Philadelphia Inquirer

ROBERT J. HALL, Publisher and Chairman
ROBERT J. ROSENTHAL, Editor and Executive Vice President
GENE FOREMAN, Deputy Editor and Vice President

WILLIAM J. WARD, Managing Editor
PHILIP DIXON, Associate Managing Editor
SANDRA L. WOOD, Associate Managing Editor
RONALD PATEL, Sunday Editor

JANE R. ESNER, Editor of the Editorial Page
CHRIS SATULLO, Deputy Editorial Page Editor
ACEL MOORE, Associate Editor

A20

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

EDITORIALS

First, teen smoking . . .

McCain's bill does too much antismoking good to be stopped over some breaks for Big Tobacco.

It's showdown time between an industry that hooks thousands of teen smokers every day and politicians trying to shake their addiction to tobacco-industry money. This week the Senate may pass a public-health breakthrough that could spare millions of Americans from smoking themselves to death.

The Senate's patient leader on tobacco issues, Arizona Republican John McCain, has a plan that would cut smoking by raising the price and by penalizing tobacco companies if they fail to reduce smoking at the entry point: teenagers. His plan's deterrents to smoking are stronger than those in the deal the industry cut with state attorneys general last year. The McCain bill also does more to preserve federal authority to regulate tobacco.

Mr. McCain's chances improved when he toughened some provisions in exchange for President Clinton's support. They agreed that tobacco companies could be penalized up to \$4 billion a year for failing to cut teen smoking sufficiently. And they raised the annual cap on industry liability for damages from \$6.5 billion to \$8 billion.

Perhaps you think the smarmy makers of this lethal product, long-time masters of the stonewall and the half-faced lie, don't deserve any such leniency. Public-health leaders such

as Drs. C. Everett Koop and David Kessler don't want Congress to grant the industry any immunity.

The heart says, Amen. But the head says, Maybe not. The McCain plan's potential to do good is so great that antitobacco activists and lawmakers ought to be willing — if it becomes necessary to clinch the deal — to grant some legal protection to this disreputable industry.

For now, though, a Senate vote for zero protection might give its negotiators a stronger hand if and when they sit down to bargain with the Gingrich Gang. The House is where top Republicans are looking to go easy on tobacco companies.

The biggest dispute between the House and the Senate might be how much to raise cigarette taxes. Price is the most important deterrent to teen smoking (and the tax revenues could help fund vital children's programs). Since Republicans want to preen as tax-cutters in their fall campaign to hold the House, many don't have the slightest interest in raising the price of a cigarette pack by the \$1.10 Mr. McCain seeks — let alone the \$1.50 or more that public-health forces are pushing.

But the bigger the price hike, the fewer young people will start a habit that kills. It's time to put public safety above bumper-sticker politics. That means passing the McCain bill — or something stronger.

. . . then, help children

Use new tobacco taxes to boost child-care programs.

... or something stronger.
leniency. Public-health leaders such

... then, help children

Use new tobacco taxes to boost child-care programs.

In an average week in America, 13 million children under age 6 are dropped off at a day-care setting. An additional 5 million under age 13 come home from school to an empty house.

Some of those day-care situations are mediocre at best, unsafe at worst. And many of those latchkey children get into unhealthy habits in that unsupervised time.

This worrisome situation will be compounded as limits on welfare eligibility begin to kick in, and millions of parents are nudged into entry-level jobs that leave scant money for good child care.

Congress and President Clinton, who pushed through welfare reform with inadequate attention to the day-care issue, have a new chance to remedy that. They can dedicate a sizable portion of the proceeds from any tobacco settlement to child care, after-school programs and early childhood education.

A tobacco settlement bill spearheaded by Sen. John McCain (R., Ariz.) aims to reduce smoking, particularly among the young — in part through higher tobacco taxes.

Since the tobacco industry for years recruited children to its poisonous products, children should benefit from a significant portion of any new cigarette taxes or other set-

tlement proceeds.

The McCain legislation suggests child care and after-school programs as a possible use for the tobacco proceeds that Congress would ship to the states. But it doesn't specifically earmark any money for child care. President Clinton, who announced a \$20 billion child-care plan in January, was also vague about where to get the money.

Now, two senators — John Kerry (D., Mass.) and Kit Bond (R., Mo.) — have proposed an amendment that would guarantee \$6 billion over five years in new cigarette tax money to child care and after-school programs.

Under the amendment, the money would be targeted at families earning less than 85 percent of a state's median income.

Mr. McCain supports the amendment, and it deserves broader bipartisan support in the Senate.

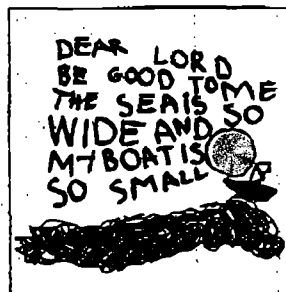
Better early child care is a ticket to better health and greater school success for many children. A U.S. Department of Health and Human Services study indicates that good after-school programs for teens can discourage the use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol.

Using tobacco settlement proceeds for such programs meshes with the goal of cutting the health toll of smoking and could produce benefits that go far beyond that.

To comment briefly on these editorials, call 215-854-5050. The Editorial Board will respond to as many calls as possible.

CHILD CARE NOW!

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET



Children's Defense Fund

TELEPHONE: (202) 662-3547

FAX: (202) 662-3560

TO:

Jenifer Klein

FIRM:

CITY/STATE:

FAX NUMBER:

456-2878

FROM:

HELEN BLANK, Director, Child Care Division,
Department of Programs and Policy

DATE:

5/28

TIME:

12:15

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT (INCLUDING COVER SHEET):

9

COMMENTS:

If you have any problems receiving this fax, please contact Kanya Williams at (202) 662-3544.

25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Telephone 202 628 8787
Fax 202 662 3510

The Boston Globe

WILLIAM O. TAYLOR, *Chairman of the Board*
MATTHEW V. STORIN, *Editor*

BENJAMIN B. TAYLOR, *Publisher*
H.D.S. GREENWAY, *Editor, Editorial Page*

WILLIAM B. HUFF, *President*
STEPHEN E. TAYLOR, *Executive Vice President*

HELEN W. DONOVAN, *Executive Editor*
GREGORY L. MOORE, *Managing Editor*

Founded 1872

HARLES H. TAYLOR, *Publisher 1873-1881* WILLIAM O. TAYLOR, *Publisher 1901-1905* WM. DAVIS TAYLOR, *Publisher 1933-1977*
JOHN I. TAYLOR, *President 1963-1975* LAURENCE L. WINSHIP, *Editor 1953-1958* THOMAS WINSHIP, *Editor 1963-1984*

To curb teenage smoking, nurture children in their earliest years

T. BERRY BRAZELTON

The Senate began debate this week on bipartisan tobacco legislation, and both Republicans and Democrats agree that the number one goal of this bill is to reduce teenage smoking. Rightfully, so. After all, millions of young lives hang in the balance.

There has already been much discussion about restricting tobacco advertising and increasing the price of cigarettes to curb teen smoking. But before the debate is over Congress should consider the underlying realities that make children vulnerable to the lure of tobacco — and invest some of the resources in the essential early-childhood development and care that can really help us save children from the dangers of smoking.

This investment in child development is a smart public health strategy based on sound science.

Recent research reminds us of the crucial importance of the first three years of life. It is during these early years that the vast majority of brain growth and devel-

opment occurs. And by shaping the structure of a baby's brain, these early experiences begin to shape the baby's self image, capacity for altruism, and motivation for learning.

Television and news magazines have carried pictures of the brains of two young children growing up with very different experiences. These pictures are road maps to our nation's future. One picture is of a healthy brain, showing how appropriate early nurturing "wires the circuits" for success. The other picture is of a far less healthy brain, showing the missed connections and lost opportunities resulting from lack of needed early stimulation.

In many ways, this "wiring" of the brain creates the solid foundation on which a child's ability to learn, solve problems, and eventually succeed is carefully constructed. If we wait until adolescence to help our children develop the sense of self that needed to resist the draw of smoking, we will be sorry.

If we want the best for our children, if we want their earliest years to lay the groundwork for a bright and smoke-free future, we must ensure that they receive the nurturing and stimulation they need from the start.

Young children's experiences with early learning help shape the way they feel, think, learn, and behave for the rest of their lives. High-quality child care can help our youngest children enter school ready to learn and develop the life skills they will need to steer clear of unhealthy habits such as smoking, drinking, and drug use.

Every day in America, millions of low-income families face the daunting task of paying for quality child care on limited budgets. This is today's reality for families who have no choice but to work, a reality that leaves far too many children at risk. Low-income parents need support to ensure that their children are safe and well cared for during these formative years. Unfortunately, far too few of them receive the help they need and deserve.

The research is conclusive — early investments have a lifelong impact. And the payoff is healthier children. But research alone will not reduce teen smoking or build healthy futures. This requires action. Congress should remember the research and help us to move this knowledge from paper to practice. Here's how.

Congress should pass strong and bipartisan tobacco legislation that recognizes the important connection be-

tween early learning and reducing teen smoking. It should invest tobacco tax money in expanding access and improving the quality of child care. Setting aside a portion of the more than \$500 billion generated by this legislation would make an enormous difference for millions of children.

The Commerce Committee wisely included child care and after-school activities among the priority areas for investment of tobacco revenue. The president did the same in his budget proposal. The full Senate did not pass the Kerry-Bond amendment to make that a reality.

If we want our children to be smart enough to say no to tobacco, then Congress needs to be smart enough to say yes to making child care and after-school programs part of our national strategy for keeping kids healthy and tobacco-free. As a prescription for preventing teen smoking, these programs are just what the doctor ordered.

Dr. T. Berry Brazelton is professor emeritus of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School.

SYRACUSE HERALD-JOURNAL

"Ignoring party politics and pursuing an independent course, we shall not hesitate to discuss public questions and to support such men and measures as seem best calculated to advance the best interests of the people." ARTHUR JENNENS, Founder, in first issue of Herald, Jan. 15, 1877.

PUBLISHED BY THE HERALD COMPANY
Post Office Box 4915
Clinton Square, Syracuse, N.Y. 13221
Wednesday, May 20, 1998

STEPHEN ROGERS, President
STEPHEN A. ROGERS, Editor and Publisher
MICHAEL J. CONNOR, Executive Editor
TIMOTHY D. BURIN, Deputy Executive Editor
L. PETER LYMAN, Editorial Page Editor
JAMES F. KLENKAUS, Advertising Director
JEFFREY A. BAMBER, Circulation Director

DEDICATE CHILD-CARE FUNDS

Let tobacco bill do some good

The McCain Tobacco Bill hit the floor of the Senate this week. The time is ripe for passage of a law to lessen the hold that cigarette companies have over young people, to rein in big tobacco lies and to allow governments and individuals to get some recompense for the health and lives ruined by smoking.

But the compromise bill, put forward by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., is not perfect. More work is required. The highest amount that could be recovered from tobacco companies annually would be \$8.5 billion. There should be no ceiling — just as there has been no ceiling on the enormous profits made by the tobacco companies for decades. The proposed tax increase of \$1.10 is not nearly enough. Surveys have shown that in order to affect the number of young people who take up smoking, that increase must be at least \$1.50 per pack.

Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., made that argument on Monday: "According to the University of Illinois' Professor Frank Chaloupka, the nation's leading authority on the impact of higher cigarette prices on teen-age smoking, an increase of \$1.50 a pack would reduce youth smoking by nearly 50 percent." Kennedy estimated that a \$1.10 tax increase would affect only 30 percent of teen smokers.

But whether the tax is \$1.10 or \$1.50 per pack, the next important question is where will that money go. There are good reasons why \$20 billion of it, over the next five years should go into child care. The Child Care and Development Block Grant program, put in place during the Bush administration, does not have enough of a budget to fulfill the needs of working families — it wouldn't even if the \$20 billion is allotted. But it would be a start.

And the way to do it is to pass the amendment proposed by Sens. John Kerry, D-Mass., and Kit Bond, R-Mo. A vote is due on Thursday. We encourage our senators to vote the amendment. And, we encourage anyone who

cares about quality child care to get on the telephone and remind Sen. Alfonse D'Amato and Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of the importance of the amendment. A temporary toll-free line has been set up by the Children's Defense Fund. It can be reached at 1-888-387-8263.

The money dedicated by the Kerry-Bond amendment would go to state-based programs both for high-quality day care and for after-school programs. It has been proven that many youngsters who take up smoking do it in the hours they are left to their own devices after school and before their parents get home. About 3,000 a day light up for the first time and of those 1,000 will die of tobacco-related illnesses. (It is also the time that 13-year-olds are most likely to try alcohol or other illegal drugs.)

If the tobacco tax money is passed as part of the McCain bill, more than \$1.3 billion of it would come to New York state over the next five years. It could help shorten the lists on which thousands of New York state children are waiting for good child care. Competent and loving care in the first years of life is a proven factor in healthy brain development. And it is those children with the best sense of themselves who can resist the pressure to try cigarettes or drugs.

Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, is right when she says that this is the ideal time to improve care for children. She notes that children have been targeted by cigarette companies for years and now deserve better.

"It would be the height of hypocrisy when we are in a time of economic boom for (Congress) not to put their actions and money behind their words," she said. "At this time of economic prosperity, if we can't take care of our children when we are rich, when we are going to care for..."

Best crime prevention is to invest in kids

By Ruben Ortega

5-15-98

From across Utah and across the nation, law enforcement leaders are coming forward to call for some major new steps in America's fight against crime. But what we're asking for may not be what you'd expect.

Those of us on the front lines understand that, as important as our work is, we'll never be able to just arrest and imprison our way out of the crime problem.

America's most powerful and under-used weapons against crime are the public investments that help families and communities provide good child care and after-school programs that teach at-risk kids the values and skills to be good citizens instead of criminals.

The evidence now proves that boosting public investment in child care and after-school programs could dramatically cut crime.

The after-school hours are prime time for juvenile crime. FBI data show violent juvenile crime triples in the hour after the school bell rings, and nearly half occurs between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Being unsupervised in the afternoon also doubles the risk that kids will smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol or use drugs.

Yet every day, more than 5 million latchkey kids spend their afternoons without adult supervision.

Communities need after-school programs to give all kids safe, positive alternatives to unsavory street corners and teach them important skills and values like respect, responsibility and hard work. After-school programs have cut neighbor-

hood crime by as much as 40 percent to 75 percent in some cities.

And we shouldn't wait until kids start school. Studies have shown that denying at-risk toddlers quality child care may multiply by as much as five to 10 times the risk that they will become criminals later.

Today, millions of parents who must work earn less than the cost of quality child care. They are forced to leave their children in poor quality baby-sitting that actually damages child development, including kids' ability to get along with others and succeed in school, and ultimately puts your family's safety at risk.

Head Start, America's principal child development program for our most at-risk kids, is so starved for funds it can serve less than half of eligible preschoolers, can serve them only part of their parents' workday, only part of the year and reaches scarcely any kids under 3.

No wonder a recent poll showed police chiefs ranked increasing investments like child care and after-school programs our "most effective" anti-crime weapons by a four-to-one margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police. Nine out of 10 chiefs said, "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in child care and after-school programs.

Last month, through a new organization called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, more than 200 police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors and crime victims called on legislators to support these investments. Days later, the Major Cities Chiefs, police chiefs from America's 49 largest cities, unanimously endorsed the same call for action.

Investments in quality child care and af-

ter-school programs are also proved to save billions of tax dollars down the road. A leading economist estimates that the cost, including crime and welfare costs of failing to provide at least two years of quality child care to low-income children is approximately \$100,000 per child. That's hundreds of billions of tax dollars we could save by supporting child care.

When we as a nation make Head Start and Early Head Start available to every eligible child, help struggling families pay for good child care and provide communities with the funds to give every school-age child positive alternatives to the street in the after-school hours, we will win a stunning victory against crime.

Government cannot meet its most fundamental responsibilities — protecting public health and the public safety — without making sure every community can provide its kids the quality child care and after-school programs proved to help their children grow up right.

That's why Congress should allocate at least half of new federal tobacco tax revenues to support child care and after-school programs. This two-pronged attack boosting tobacco prices to keep kids from smoking and investing those funds in programs that build better young citizens would be among the most powerful steps Congress has ever taken to fight crime and increase public safety and public health.

Indeed, crime may be America's most fundamental public health issue. It's time for us to pay now for prevention, in money and lives — on preventable crime. Ruben Ortega is chief of the Salt Lake City Police Department.

May 18, 1998

Dear Senator:

As doctors, public health officials, business leaders, and child development experts, we are on the front lines -- working to help children grow and develop into productive citizens. We know all too well the dangers of tobacco and have seen all too frequently its tight grip on the futures of our young people. Congress has a chance to turn this tide and to reduce teen smoking in America. [Scientific studies and real world experience clearly demonstrate that early childhood development and after-school programs are among the most powerful anti-smoking weapons available.]

Research shows that brain development in the first three years of life is important for laying the foundation for adequate development -- which results in self confidence, smart decision-making, and the ability to later resist destructive habits such as smoking. If we want our children to grow up healthy and tobacco free, we must ensure that they receive the stimulation and nurturing they need early. If we wait until adolescence to help them develop the will and skills to say no to smoking -- we will have done too little and we may have been too late.

After-school programs make a world of difference. We know that the 5 million children left home alone after school are more vulnerable to negative peer pressure from the tobacco industry. After-school programs help keep young people off the streets and engaged in constructive activities that enhance rather than jeopardize their futures. In addition, many of these after-school programs incorporate anti-smoking curriculum designed to teach their participants about the dangers of tobacco and equip them with the skills to make important life and death decisions.

Research has shown that 13 year olds left home alone are significantly more likely to smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol, and experiment with drugs. In stark contrast, children who participate in productive after-school activities are far less likely to smoke, drink alcohol, or use drugs.

It takes many strategies to be effective. We urge Congress to craft a comprehensive program for reducing teen smoking -- and to ensure that such an effort includes an essential investment in early childhood development and after-school programs. **You can support a down payment on this investment by voting for the Kerry-Bond amendment to S.1415.**

Sincerely,

T. Berry Brazelton, M.D., *Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School*

Julius Richmond, M.D., *Former U.S. Surgeon General*

Edward Zigler, Ph.D., *Professor of Psychology, Yale University/ Director, Bush Center for Child Development and Social Policy*

Kathryn Barnard, R.N., Ph.D., *University of Washington, Seattle*
 Richard E. Behrman, M.D., *Managing Director, Center for the Future of Children, the David and Lucille Packard Foundation*
 Thomas F. Boat, M.D., *Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine*
 Maria D. Chavez, Ph.D., *University of New Mexico, Albuquerque*
 Russell W. Chesney, M.D., *Le Bonheur Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, University of Tennessee - Memphis*
 Donald Cohen, M.D., *Professor of Pediatrics and Psychology, Yale Medical School/ Director, Yale University Child Study Center*
 Michael Cohen, M.D., *Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine*
 Louis Z. Cooper, M.D., *Professor and Director of Pediatrics, St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital*
 George J. Dover, M.D., *Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*
 John M. Driscoll, Jr., M.D., *Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Columbia University*
 Frances J. Dunston, M.D., M.P.H., *Chairperson, Department of Pediatrics, Morehouse School of Medicine*
 Alan Ezekowitz, M.B., Ch.B., D.Phil., *Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School/ Chief, Pediatric Services, Massachusetts General Hospital*
 Louis R. First, M.D., *Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, University of Vermont College of Medicine*
 Myron Genel, M.D., *Professor of Pediatrics/ Associate Dean for Government and Community Affairs, Yale University School of Medicine*
 Linda Gilkerson, Ph.D., *Erikson Institute*
 Stanley I. Greenspan, M.D., *Clinical Professor of Psychology and Pediatrics, George Washington University Medical School*
 Neal Halfon, M.D., *Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health/ Director of Child and Family Health Program, University California Los Angeles*
 Irving Harris, CEO, *Pittway Corporation*
 William Harris, *President, KIDS Project*
 Robert Harmon, M.D., *University of Colorado Health Services Center*
 Douglas M. Jones, Jr., M.D., *Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado/ Pediatrician-in-Chief, Children's Hospital*
 Sheila B. Kamerman, D.S.W., *Columbia University School of Social Work*
 Robert M. Kliegman, M.D., *Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, Medical College of Wisconsin*
 J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D., *Director, Center for Child and Family Studies, WestEd*
 Alecia F. Lieberman, Ph.D., *San Francisco General Hospital*
 Elizabeth R. McAnarney, M.D., *Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, University of Rochester*
 Harriet Meyer, *Executive Director, Ounce of Prevention Fund*
 Robert Michael, Ph.D., *Dean, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago*
 Phillip Pizzo, M.D., *Physician-in-Chief, Department of Internal Medicine, Children's Hospital*
 Keith Powell, M.D., *Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, Northeastern Ohio Universities, College of Medicine*

Lisbeth B. Schorr, *Director, Harvard University Project on Effective Services*
Rebecca Shahmoon Shanok, M.S.W., Ph.D., *Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services*
Larry J. Shapiro, M.D., *Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, University of California San Francisco*
Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D., *Dean, Heller School of Public Policy, Brandeis University*
Albert Solnit, M.D., *Sterling Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, Yale University School of Medicine/ Commissioner, Connecticut State Department of Mental Health*
Lynn G. Straus, M.S.
David Weikart, M.D., *President, Hi-Scope Foundation*
Howard L. Weinberger, M.D., *Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, State University of New York Health Science Center at Syracuse*
Bernice Weissbourd, *President, Family Resource Coalition of America*
Philip R. Ziring, M.D., *Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Finch University of Health Sciences*
Barry Zuckerman, M.D., *Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Boston University School of Medicine*

CITY OF BUFFALO
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Police Commissioner

74 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

Telephone: 716-851-4444

April 6, 1998

Mr. Bruce Reed, Assistant to the President
Domestic Policy
The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20520

Honorable President Clinton,

I would very much appreciate you taking just a few minutes to read the attached letter.
During my twenty-seven years of law enforcement experience I have become convinced
that early intervention is the key to producing safer communities.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gil Kerlikowske".

R. Gil Kerlikowske
Police Commissioner

RGK/yq

Handwritten notes:
Jen -
FYI
RR

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

POLICE

Philip Arreola
Chief, Tacoma, WA
Sherman Block
Sheriff, LA County, CA
William Bratton
Fmr. Commiss'r., NYC
Sam A. Cabral
President, Int'l Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO
Dean M. Esserman
Chief, Metro North, NY
Thomas C. Frazier
Police Commissioner,
Baltimore, MD
Gilbert G. Gallegos
President, Fraternal
Order of Police
E. Douglas Hamilton
Chief, Louisville, KY
Phil E. Keith
Chief, Knoxville, TN
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo, NY
Charles A. Moose
Chief, Portland, OR
Patrick V. Murphy
Former Commiss'r, NYC,
DC, Detroit, Syracuse
Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief, Charlotte, NC
Reuban B. Ortega
Chief, Salt Lake City, UT
Matt L. Rodriguez
Fmr. Police Sup't, Chicago, IL
Joseph Samuels
Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrell Sanders
Chief, Frankfurt, IL
Darrel W. Stephens
Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Jack O'Malley
Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL
Elliot L. Richardson
Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Jim Ryan
Attorney General, IL
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Fdr., Mothers of All Children
Ellen Halbert
Editor, National Crime
Victims Report
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
Marc Klaas
Fdr., Klaas Fdn. for Children
Dennis Lees, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Bartlett

March 11, 1998

Dear Senator or Representative:

As an organization of police, prosecutors and crime victims, we urge that you earmark at least \$40 billion over five years in mandatory spending from new federal tobacco revenues to support child care and after-school programs — two of our most powerful weapons against crime and most powerful investments to protect the public health and public safety.

As our recent *Quality Child Care and After-School Programs: Powerful Weapons Against Crime* report makes clear, these investments will dramatically reduce crime and violence. Indeed, hundreds of police chiefs, sheriffs, leaders of law enforcement officer organizations, prosecutors and crime victims nationwide have called on Congress to make sure every child has access to quality child care and after-school programs. A similar call was issued by the Major Cities Chiefs organization (composed of the police chiefs from North America's 52 largest cities) at its winter meeting.

It is time for Congress to lay out a long-term plan to eliminate in the area of child care and after-school programs our *crime prevention deficit* — the gaping shortfall in our investment in helping kids get the right start. We believe it is critical that as a first step you propose funding *increases in mandatory spending* over the next five years of:

- at least an additional \$10 billion for Head Start, so that the program can expand to serve more eligible children, can provide full-day and year-round care for more of the eligible children who need it, and can maintain and further strengthen its quality;
- at least an additional \$5 billion for Early Head Start or other quality early childhood development programs for children under three;
- at least \$20 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant to increase the accessibility and quality of child care for children from families making less than 85% of median income; and
- at least \$7.5 billion for after-school programs for school-aged youth.

Supporting quality child care and after-school programs addresses crucial public health issues:

- Recent research showing that children's early experiences affect the physical development and wiring of the brain itself is only the latest evidence that the line separating child health from child development is imaginary.
- We also know that, especially for children growing up in high-crime neighborhoods, crime and violence are the greatest threats to their health and safety.



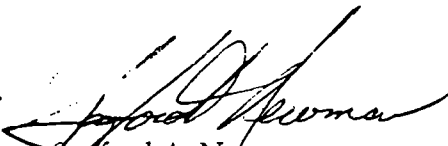
- The hours from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. are not only the peak hours for juvenile crime, teen sex and teen experimentation with drugs, but also the hours when teens are most likely to get hooked on tobacco. After-school programs are not only our best protection against juvenile crime, but also may be the most powerful anti-smoking programs available.
- Crime is the ultimate public health issue. When we know that denying at-risk preschoolers access to quality child care multiplies by five to ten times the likelihood that they will end up involved in crime, turning our backs on child care funding means turning our backs on fundamental public health and safety needs.

Additional information about FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS, including our recent report, is available on the Internet at www.fightcrime.org.

Sincerely,



Elliot L. Richardson
former United States
Attorney General



Sanford A. Newmyer
President



R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo
Police Department

TO: The First Lady, Melanne Verveer

FROM: Jen Klein, Neera Tanden

DATE: April 9, 1998

RE: Youth Crime and Prevention

Recent events, legislation on the Hill, and innovative research findings all present an opportunity for you to engage in the current discourse on juvenile crime and prevention in a number of ways. We are providing information on the following areas, each of which offers you a different prism through which to examine this issue:

1. After Jonesboro: Immediate actions you can take in light of the recent tragedy to help find solutions to this tragedy as well as the problem of school violence overall.
2. S. 10: The progress of the legislation and concerns it raises.
3. Longer term agenda for at-risk issues: Models for crime prevention as well as event ideas to highlight these models.

TO: The First Lady, Melanne Verveer

FROM: Jen Klein, Neera Tanden

DATE: April 9, 1998

RE: After Jonesboro

In light of the Jonesboro tragedy, national attention has been focused on violence committed by children. This memo outlines possible steps you can take to highlight efforts to deal with causes and consequences of this tragedy and youth violence in general.

In addition to your column for the week of April 6th, there are three forms of action you may take:

1. Participate in Justice Department Expert Panel on School Federal Action: The President recently directed Attorney General Reno to bring together experts on school violence to analyze these incidents to determine what they have in common and whether there are further steps the federal government can take to reduce the likelihood they will recur. This Justice Department expert panel provides an opportunity for you to engage in on-going discussion of the Jonesboro tragedy and help highlight the problem of school violence. The Justice Department is now selecting the panel of experts and hopes to convene the first meeting on April 24th, a day on which your schedule is more flexible.

2. Focus on approaches that work:

A. Educational Efforts: You could focus attention on particular efforts to educate young people about gun violence, such as STAR, an initiative promoted by Handgun Control, Inc. STAR, which stands for Straight Talk About Risks, is a gun violence prevention program for school-aged youth and their families. STAR is a primary prevention program, premised on the belief that all U.S. children and teens are at risk of gun injury or deaths. STAR is designed to help youth develop victim prevention skills and to rehearse behaviors needed to manage problems, such as conflict and peer pressure, non-violently without guns. STAR is currently being used by selected schools in over 70 municipalities nationwide, including the nation's largest school systems: New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago and Dade County. STAR has also been effectively implemented as police-led crime prevention initiatives, and in conjunction with recreation and health education programs. STAR materials include: skill building activities for grade pre-K through 12; awareness materials designed to promote parent and community involvement; video presentations; and in-service training materials among other things.

B. Crime-Prevention Strategies: You could focus attention on community-based crime prevention initiatives that work to reduce violence and tensions at schools and in the community. Such initiatives include strong partnerships between police and youth organizations that reach out to at-risk youth by giving first-time minor offenders recreational and skill-building opportunities.

These local efforts are taking place all over the country as law enforcement increasingly recognizes that prevention strategies work. Some of these initiatives are highlighted in a new report titled Kids, Cops and Communities, which the Justice Department will release in late April.

3. Address Deeper Cultural Challenges: Continue your efforts to confront the elements of national culture that celebrate violence in speeches and other forums. Such an effort can also include specific challenges to gun manufacturers to stop targeting our children. According to articles in the Washington Post and Wall Street Journal, both gun manufacturers and the NRA are targeting children in an effort to make guns more attractive to them. This is part of an overall strategy to ensure demand for guns into the future because the adult gun market is becoming saturated.

TO: The First Lady, Melanne Verveer

FROM: Neera Tanden

DATE: April 9, 1998

RE: Juvenile Justice Legislation

This memo is meant to provide background on the juvenile justice legislation by detailing the status of negotiations and the interest groups' concerns about this legislation. I have also attached a memo from the Attorney General outlining her concerns. Of course, you may want to have a longer, more detailed conversation regarding this legislation and the concerns it raises.

JUVENILE JUSTICE LEGISLATION ON THE HILL

In February of 1997, the President announced his Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Strategy, an important component of which was anti-gang and youth violence legislation. The overall strategy included crime prevention funding, gun violence measures as well as anti-juvenile crime legislation that amends federal criminal law. In response, Republicans in Congress have pushed their own measures. The House has already passed two juvenile justice bills -- H.R. 3 and H.R. 1818. Although both bills are titled "The Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1997," H.R. 3 is an accountability bill and H.R. 1818 is a prevention and intervention bill. H.R. 3, which was introduced by Rep. McCollum (R-FL) and passed the House on May 8, 1997, authorizes a \$1.5 billion block grant over three years for post-conviction or -adjudication activity only. Of this \$1.5 billion, no prevention spending is permitted, much less required. H.R. 1818, which was introduced by Rep. Riggs (R-CA) and passed the House on July 15, 1997, creates a block grant for prevention and intervention, although no money has been specified in the bill. The Administration strongly supports H.R. 1818 and opposes H.R. 3. Both bills await conference.

The Senate has before it S. 10, the "Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Act of 1997," which was introduced by Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Jeff Sessions (R-AL), and reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 24, 1997. In terms of spending provisions, S.10 provides a \$3.25 billion block grant over 5 years for a range of purposes, but, currently does not contain guaranteed prevention money -- despite a guarantee that 60% of funds will be used for juvenile facilities, sanctions, drug testing, and record-keeping. After the Jonesboro incident, Majority Leader Lott stated publicly that they may bring up S. 10 some time in the next few months, although he has made no commitment to do so soon.

STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS

Most of the focus of energy and attention is now on S.10 because it can still be amended or defeated on the floor. The White House and Justice Department are not opposing S. 10, although both see serious flaws in it. This has helped create a pervasive sense on the Hill that the President is likely to sign a juvenile crime bill regardless of the harmful provisions that it contains. They believe this view is due to signals sent by the President's senior advisers, specifically Rahm Emanuel. Of course, the pervasiveness of this view makes it all the more difficult to amend S.10 for the better, a situation which is particularly frustrating to the Justice Department. It is because of this frustration that they

are contacting you.

At the same time, Justice is concerned about the fact that many progressive interest groups, including the Children's Defense Fund, the NAACP, and the ACLU, are taking affirmative steps to block passage of S. 10. These groups believe that its objectionable provisions far outweigh the good that it might produce and that the various legislative proposals under consideration in this area abandon the rehabilitative approach to juvenile justice in favor of pure punishment. More specifically, they are concerned about provisions in both H.R. 3 and S. 10 which increase prosecutions of juveniles as adults, expand access to juvenile records, and erode the "core requirements" (a.k.a. "fundamental protections") -- especially the requirement of separation of delinquents from adults in state custody. The groups' opposition is apparently persuading some Senate Democrats, who are content to seek prevention funds through the appropriation process and abandon S. 10. The progressive groups are asking us to at least threaten to veto the bill.

We have rejected this approach, choosing instead to try to modify or eliminate the most objectionable parts of S. 10., while retaining the crime-fighting provisions we believe it already contains. Our view has been that the bill's reforms to the federal juvenile system, including increased prosecutorial discretion and greater protections for victims and witnesses, are very important. Many of its amendments to federal criminal law that will make it easier for prosecutors to combat gangs, guns, and drugs came straight out of the Administration's bill. Consequently, the Administration has been working to effect critical changes to S. 10, primarily dedicated prevention funds, preservation of the core mandates, judicial safeguards for juveniles in the federal system, and far greater flexibility for states in the administration of their own juvenile justice systems.

As the attached memo from the Attorney General indicates, the Department of Justice would like any juvenile justice legislation to contain the following three provisions: statutory authorization of at least \$95 million for prevention programs administered by the Department of Justice; statutory authorization of at least \$100 million for state and local prosecutors and courts; and preservation of the four "fundamental protections" addressing the incarceration of juveniles. While the White House shares these concerns about S. 10, we have not been vocal in our demands for their inclusion in any final bill. And in regards to the prevention funding, there are many different vehicles for such funding -- while the Attorney General's goal is prevention money administered by the Department of Justice, our attempts to secure such funding have not been successful in past appropriation processes. In fact, the White House has been content in the past to secure either block grant funding to the states or funding in other streams, such as the Department of Education.

Precisely because the groups feel that we are not realistically likely to improve the legislation, they are mobilizing forces to oppose it. Indeed, the opposition of groups from all sides of the political spectrum has meant that until recently, there was very little pressure to move the bill. Only after the Jonesboro incident have some Senate Republican leaders started to clamor for a floor vote. However, many believe the bill is still in trouble and may not move onto the floor until the summer.

PROGRESSIVE GROUPS' CONCERNS

While the groups have raised many issues in regards to S. 10, the following are of greatest concern to them:

1. Erosion of federal protections for juvenile delinquents in state custody (especially housing juveniles with adults)
2. Prosecuting juveniles as adults
3. Increased mandatory minimums
4. Expanded access to juvenile records

1. Erosion of Federal Protections for Juveniles in State Custody (especially housing juveniles with adults)

The groups are very upset that S.10 might permit the housing of juvenile delinquents with adults in state custody. They fear a return to the levels of abuse and suicide that prompted the separation requirements in the first place. Current law requires states to satisfy the following conditions, popularly understood as the core requirements or fundamental protections, in order to obtain the formula grant money administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Programs: 1) separation of juveniles from adults by sight and sound separation in all institutions while in state custody; 2) removal of juveniles from adult jails and lock-ups; 3) deinstitutionalization of status offenders; and 4) disproportionate minority confinement. S. 10 would greatly weaken the separation requirement, eliminate the removal requirement, provide large exceptions to the requirement to deinstitutionalize status offenders, and virtually eliminate the requirement to avoid disproportionate minority confinement. We share the groups' vehement objection to these provisions in S.10 which essentially gut these requirements.

2. Prosecuting Juveniles as Adults

The groups are distressed that the new bills expand the list of offenses for which a juvenile may be tried as an adult in the federal system, and give U.S. Attorneys the discretion to charge juveniles as adults. They think these changes give prosecutors too much power and unnecessarily "federalize" juvenile crime. The Administration's bill also proposed expanding the list of offenses for which a juvenile could be tried as an adult in the federal system, and gave U.S. Attorneys the discretion to charge juveniles as adults -- although we provided for judicial review of this decision in all but the most serious cases. The Administration's position is that increased prosecutorial discretion is critical because the current process for determining whether a juvenile may be tried as an adult is often highly unpredictable and fraught with delay.

The groups are even more upset that the new bills would require, as a condition of receipt of new federal juvenile justice money, that States prosecute more juveniles as adults. S. 10 makes it a condition that juveniles 14 and older may be prosecuted under State law as adults for an act that would be a serious violent felony if committed by an adult. H.R. 3's condition is even stricter: States must provide that juveniles 15 or older charged with serious violent crimes can be tried as adults either as a matter of law or prosecutorial discretion.

3. Mandatory Minimum Sentences:

1

The groups oppose mandatory minimums in general, and are particularly upset that: 1) more juveniles will be subject to existing ones if tried as adults, and 2) S. 10 increases certain existing mandatory minimums as well as creates several entirely new ones.

The Administration's bill proposed only one new mandatory minimum: 3 years for the transfer of a handgun to a juvenile knowing it will be used to commit a crime of violence. The Administration's bill also raised existing mandatory minimums (from 1 to 3 years) for the most egregious forms of drug trafficking: selling drugs to children, using children to sell drugs, and selling drugs near schools. While S. 10 includes versions of both of those provisions, it also includes several new mandates, such as 5 years for a "pattern" of criminal gang activity, and 25 years for a second offense under the new "pattern of gang activity" statute. We have stated from the outset our concerns about these attempts to crack down on gangs.

4. Expanding Access to Juvenile Records

The groups are angry that the new bills drastically increase access to juvenile records, especially state records. They argue, correctly, that most juvenile offenders never return to the justice system, and youthful indiscretion should not follow them forever. Specifically, many of them see this as one more unnecessary obstacle many young black men will face in trying to seek employment.

The Administration's legislation proposes incentive grants to help states modernize their juvenile record keeping systems. However, S. 10 and H.R. 3 go much further, imposing a requirement on States to fingerprint and photograph juveniles, keep most juvenile records in a manner equivalent to adult records, send juvenile records to the FBI and, under the Senate bill, dramatically expand access to those records by schools, courts, and law enforcement of any jurisdiction. The Administration is strenuously opposing this condition because it is extraordinarily intrusive and expensive; it is one area on which S. 10's lead authors, Hatch and DeWine, have signaled flexibility.

TO: The First Lady, Melanne Verveer

FROM: Jen Klein, Neera Tanden

DATE: April 9, 1998

RE: Models of Crime Prevention

We now know of two different types of models -- the Boston Gun Project, which is a successful strategy of juvenile crime prevention, and the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods, which is a longer-term analysis of the causes of crime that also illuminates effective strategies to prevent all types of crime. This memo outlines the findings of these two research efforts and suggests events to highlight both their findings as well as the overall issue of prevention.

I. Two kinds of models

A. The Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (which is often referred to as the Chicago Study):

The Chicago Project is a long-term, on-going study, which began in 1990, that will examine the factors that could potentially contribute to criminal behavior -- the community, family, peers, as well as individual characteristics. In fact, it is made up of two forms of study -- a comparison of neighborhoods and a longitudinal study of individuals. The study brings together data from the census, police and a citywide survey of more than 8,000 Chicago residents and 80 Chicago communities in a coordinated effort to investigate why neighborhoods vary greatly in levels of criminal victimization and homicides. The longitudinal study of individuals is monitoring children and adolescents as they grow up in order to understand the impact on their behavior of factors such as changes in family structure, social services and characteristics of the neighborhood.

The Project's comparison of neighborhoods has already yielded some results. Preliminary findings published last August showed that lower rates of violence occur in urban neighborhoods characterized by "collective efficacy." The investigators found that "collective efficacy," or the willingness to monitor children's play groups, help neighbors, and intervene in preventing acts such as juvenile truancy or street-corner loitering, is the key indicator as to whether a neighborhood will or will not experience crime problems. Although previous studies have cited a relationship between race, poverty and crime, this study shows that, after controlling for social composition, collective efficacy is a strong predictor of the violence level in the neighborhood. These findings clearly supports your view that community involvement is critical to the welfare of our children.

In particular, the published findings show that collective expectations for intervening on behalf of neighborhood children is a crucial dimension of the public life of neighborhoods. Interestingly,

some of the Chicago neighborhoods with the highest levels of this type of collective efficacy are African-American, middle-class and stable. In this sense, the findings imply that achieving stable and safe neighborhoods is possible, although not necessarily easy, in all areas whether they be rich or poor, black or white.

While this study has been contrasted in media reports with the work of academics such as William Julius Wilson, who argue that economic factors are the key indicators of crime rates, this is a false dichotomy to a great extent. The study found that while collective efficacy is the most important variable in determining whether crime and general anti-social behavior will take place, both concentrated poverty and residential instability can undermine collective efficacy.

The study's analysis is expected to inform the design of effective violence prevention strategies in communities and schools. The Chicago Study is a multi-faceted, multi-year analysis that will have several new research offshoots, many of which touch on issues you have worked on:

New Report: The Chicago Project published a study last year on the relationship between collective efficacy and crime, which was based on interviews with individual residents. In the next month, they will release a new study based both on physical landscape and on actual observance of the neighborhoods that confirms their previous findings that collective efficacy is critical to stopping crime.

Child Care: The study is examining systems of child care support and monitoring their impact on families. Researchers are studying the quality of the arrangements families are choosing, many of which are informal because of the particular needs of the families, and will be tracking any effects on children in the longitudinal study.

Birth weight: The researchers are also examining whether birth weight is affected by neighborhood social support systems. According to a report that will be issued in the next three months, the researchers found that neighborhoods with high levels of collective efficacy have higher birth weight rates than those communities that lack collective efficacy.

School sites: Researchers are also visiting schools in neighborhoods and examining school-community interactions, and trying to determine whether strong neighborhood relationships to schools increase school performance. They posit that how and whether we view schools as embedded in neighborhoods will affect school performance.

As each report comes forward, they offer an opportunity for you to help communicate the importance of previous findings as well.

B. Boston Gun Project

The Boston Gun Project, also known as Operation Cease Fire, is a research and action project aimed at reducing serious youth violence in Boston. The three-year project has assembled a large interagency group, including local, state and federal officials, to tackle both the cause of youth violence in Boston and prevention strategies. The strategy combines a tough but smart approach

to crime prevention, encapsulating three particular efforts:

1) Cracking down on illicit gun trafficking: Gun Project researchers, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents, and Boston Police Department investigators are systematically tracing crime guns, and taking illegal guns off the streets in order to de-escalate the cycle of violence. The Treasury Department and Justice Department Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative has extended this aspect of the initiative to 16 other cities since July 1996.

2) Focusing on violent gang members: Gun Project research showed that the problem of youth homicide was concentrated among a small number of serially offending gang-involved youth. Only about 1300 gang members -- less than 1% of their age group city-wide -- were responsible for from 60% to 80% of all the youth homicide in the city. The agencies involved in the Cease Fire strategy have been communicating systematically with gang members that violence will not be tolerated in Boston, and that gang members are under particular scrutiny. At the same time, gang members are also made aware of alternatives to crime and violence, such as summer jobs and recreational opportunities provided by local government, corporate and community groups.

3) Cracking down on all illegal activity by gang members: When gang violence occurs, Cease Fire cracks down on all illegal activity by violent gang members with special prosecutorial attention, from minor violations like driving unregistered cars to more serious crimes like drug dealing. At the same time, gang outreach specialists are deployed and other social services mobilized who communicate that services will be revoked if the violence continues. The key characteristics of this response is that it is predictable, immediate and involves the application of control and sanctions very quickly. As a result, Boston's juvenile homicide rate has dramatically declined; until a recent murder, not a single juvenile had been killed with a gun in over two years.

II. Events to highlight these models

Interestingly, while these models have the power to alter our understanding of crime and crime prevention, they are both only at the very nascent stages of affecting the current discourse on the subject. Therefore, they could both benefit from efforts to educate a larger audience on their findings. In addition, highlighting these models could form part of a larger discussion of what works.

1. Round table on violence prevention strategies in Boston: Boston has been recognized as a national model and other cities, like Minneapolis, are starting to adopt its strategies. You could more formally highlight Boston's strategy through a round table discussion in Boston or here with experts and leaders in the field.

2. Round table with Chicago Study researchers and others with the release of new studies: Because the project releases findings on a regular basis, you could hold a round table or panel discussion to highlight some of the more interesting findings as they are released, as well as the overall project.

3. Release of New Report: The Department of Justice will issue a report titled Kids, Cops and

Communities, in late April which focuses on exemplary partnerships between the police and other community organizations to reduce juvenile crime and delinquency in Connecticut, Washington and Texas. It will also contain suggestions for police chiefs and officers to promote and support efforts to provide positive alternatives for children when they are not in school. We could use this as an opportunity to highlight a range of effective models.

4. After-school event: We have submitted a request for you and the President to participate in the announcement of the first grants in the 21st Century Learning Center Program and to release a report on the effectiveness of after-school programs for youth by the Departments of Education and Justice.

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

POLICE

Philip Arreola

Chief, Tacoma, WA

Sherman Block

Sheriff, LA County, CA

William Bratton

Fmr. Commiss'r., NYC

Sam A. Cabral

President, Int'l Union of

Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO

Dean M. Esserman

Chief, Metro North, NY

Gilbert G. Gallegos

President, Fraternal

Order of Police

E. Douglas Hamilton

Chief, Louisville, KY

Phil E. Keith

Chief, Knoxville, TN

R. Gil Kerlikowske

Commissioner, Buffalo, NY

Talmadge N. Moore

Chief, Ft. Wayne, IN

Charles A. Moose

Chief, Portland, OR

Patrick V. Murphy

Former Commiss'r., NYC,

DC, Detroit, Syracuse

Dennis E. Nowicki

Chief, Charlotte-

Mecklenburg, NC

Matt L. Rodriguez

Superintendent, Chicago, IL

Joseph Samuels

Chief, Oakland, CA

Darrel W. Stephens

Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL

Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.

Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO

Donald H. Warshaw

Chief, Miami, FL

Rc t S. Warshaw

Chief, Rochester, NY

Elizabeth M. Watson

Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle

District Atty., Travis Co., TX

Norman S. Early, Jr.

Former D.A., Denver, CO

Ralph C. Martin, II

District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA

Jack O'Malley

Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL

Elliot L. Richardson

Former US Attorney General

and Secretary of HEW, of

Defense and of Commerce

Grant Woods

Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis

Fdr., Mothers of All Children

Ellen Halbert

Editor, National Crime

Victims Report

Carole Grant Hall

Director, Ginger Ridge

Residents' Initiative

Marc Klaas

Fdr., Klaas Fdn. for Children

Dennis Lees, Ph.D.

Mgr., Mental Health Clinic

Jean Lewis

President, Parents of

Murdered Children

Gordon Rondeau &

Elaine Rondeau

Founders, Action America:

Murder Must End Now



**After-School Crime
or
After-School Programs:**

*Tuning In to the
Prime Time for Violent Juvenile Crime
and Implications for National Policy*

A Report to the United States Attorney General

from

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

by

**James Alan Fox, Ph.D., Dean, College of Criminal Justice,
Northeastern University
Sanford A. Newman, J.D., President, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids**

This report is based on the newly released data on the prevalence of violent juvenile crime by time of day. These data were compiled from the F.B.I.'s National Incident-Based Reporting System by Melissa Sickmund, Howard N. Snyder, and Eileen Poe-Yamagata for their forthcoming "Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence," National Center for Juvenile Justice (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention).

President

Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors

Amy R. Dawson

Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Media Director

John W. Bartlett

**NATIONAL CRIME AND
VIOLENCE PREVENTION
RESOURCE COUNCIL**

Barbara T. Bowman, M.A.

President, Erickson Institute of
Advanced Study in Child
Development

John A. Calhoun, M.P.A.

Executive Director, National
Crime Prevention Council

Donald J. Cohen, M.D.

Director, Yale Child Study
Center

Sanford Dornbusch, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Stanford;
Advisory Board Chair, Stanford
Center on Adolescence

Craig W. Floyd

Chair, National Law Enforce-
ment Officers Memorial Fund

James A. Fox, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern University

John W. Gardner, Ph.D.

Former US Secretary of Health,
Education, and Welfare;

Consulting Professor, Stanford

Richard Gerber, M.D.

Associate Clinical Professor of
Psychiatry, GWU Med. School

Alice S. Honig, Ph.D.

Professor Emerita, Child
Development, Syracuse Univ.

Thomas C. Joe, M.A.

Director, Center for the
Study of Social Policy

J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D.

Dir., Ctr. for Child and Family
Studies, Far West Laboratory

Steven Marans, Ph.D.

Director, Program on Child
Development-Community
Policing, Yale Child Study Ctr.

Ray Marshall, Ph.D.

Former US Secretary of Labor;
Chair in Economics and Public
Affairs, Univ. of Texas - Austin

Jack McDevitt, Ph.D.

Professor, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern Univ.;
Co-Director, Center for Criminal
Justice Policy Research

Lisbeth B. Schorr

Lecturer in Social Medicine,
Harvard University

David P. Weikart, Ph.D.

President, High/Scope
Educational Research Fdn.

Bernice Weissbourd

President, Family Resource
Council

Richard Weissbourd, Ph.D.

Professor, Kennedy School of
Government, Harvard

Chuck Wexler, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Police
Executive Research Forum

Edward Zigler, Ph.D.

Director, Bush Center in Child
Development and Social Policy,
Yale University



After-School Crime or After-School Programs:

Tuning In to the Prime Time for Violent Juvenile Crime and Implications for National Policy

**A Report to the United States Attorney General
from
FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

by
James Alan Fox, Ph.D., Dean, College of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University
Sanford A. Newman, J.D., President, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

Executive Summary

Prime Time for Juvenile Crime

Until recently, the only solid data available to tell us at what time of day most juvenile crime occurs have been data from South Carolina. These data have been criticized because they came from only one state, and because that state had a more modest juvenile gang problem than many others.

New data have been compiled from FBI reports by the National Center on Juvenile Justice and the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. These data which have recently become available are based on eight states: Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, North Dakota, South Carolina, and Utah.¹

These new data make clear that the peak hours for violent juvenile crime are 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. They tell us that when the school bell rings, leaving millions of young people without responsible adult supervision or constructive activities, juvenile crime suddenly triples and prime time for juvenile crime begins.

Nearly half of all violent juvenile crime takes place during the six-hour period between 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM, and nearly two thirds of all violent juvenile crime takes place during the nine hours between 2:00 PM and 11:00 PM. In contrast, just one seventh occurs during the eight hours from 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM, the period for which curfew laws are often suggested.

This report focuses on days when school is in session — the days when after-school programs could conceivably have a major impact on youth activity during the prime time juvenile crime hours. About half of the days of the year are school days, but 57% of violent crime committed by juveniles occur on these days.²

1 Melissa Sickmund, Howard N. Snyder, and Eileen Poe-Yamagata "Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence," National Center for Juvenile Justice (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention).

2 Ibid.

Foolish Policy Choices

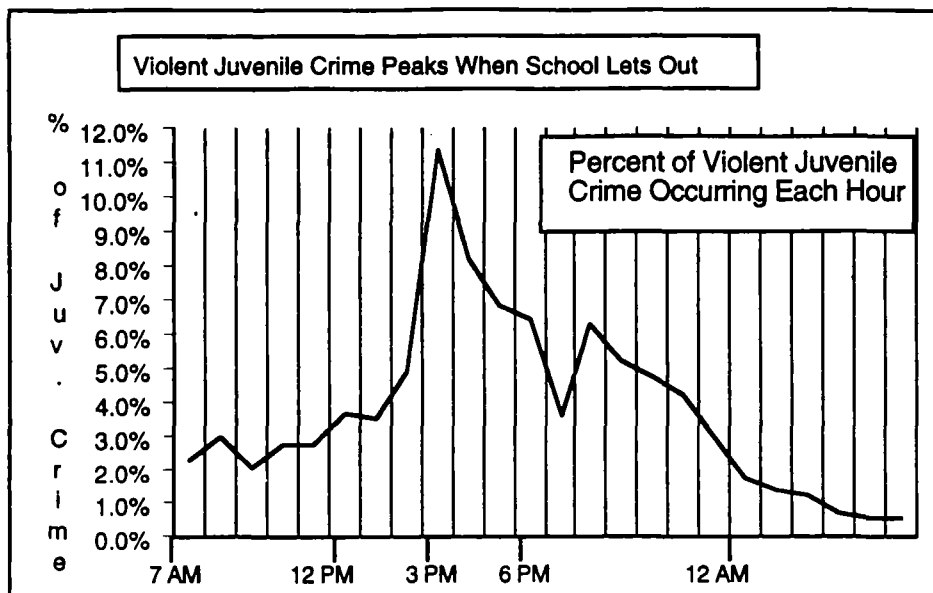
These data are a wake-up call telling us that we as a nation are making a foolish choice—and paying a tragic price. When we send millions of young people out on the streets after school with no responsible supervision or constructive activities, we reap a massive dose of juvenile crime. If, instead, we were to provide students with quality after-school programs, safe havens from negative influences, and constructive recreational, academic enrichment and community service activities, we would dramatically reduce crime while helping students develop the values and skills they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults.

Decisions Ahead

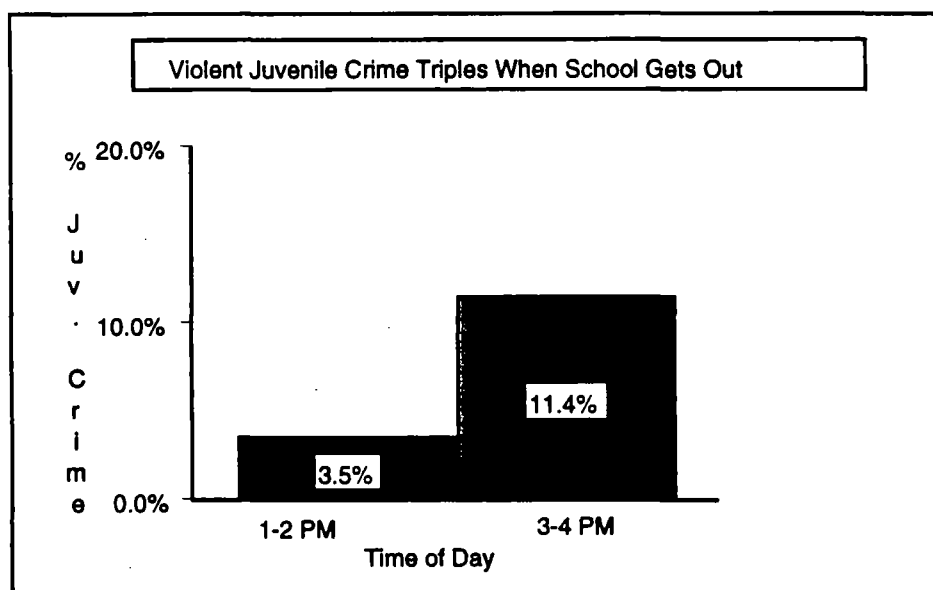
America's leaders must decide whether they are ready to invest in the after-school programs which can ensure that the school dismissal bell signals the start of a rich afternoon of constructive child and youth development and of community service rather than the start of a daily surge in juvenile crime.

I. Critical New Information for Crime Prevention Policy: Peak Juvenile Crime Hours are 3:00 PM-8:00 PM

The evidence is indisputable. After spiking between 3:00 PM and 4:00 PM, violent juvenile crime begins a steady drop until 7:00 AM the next morning, and remains low until school is dismissed the next day. This pattern is illustrated below.

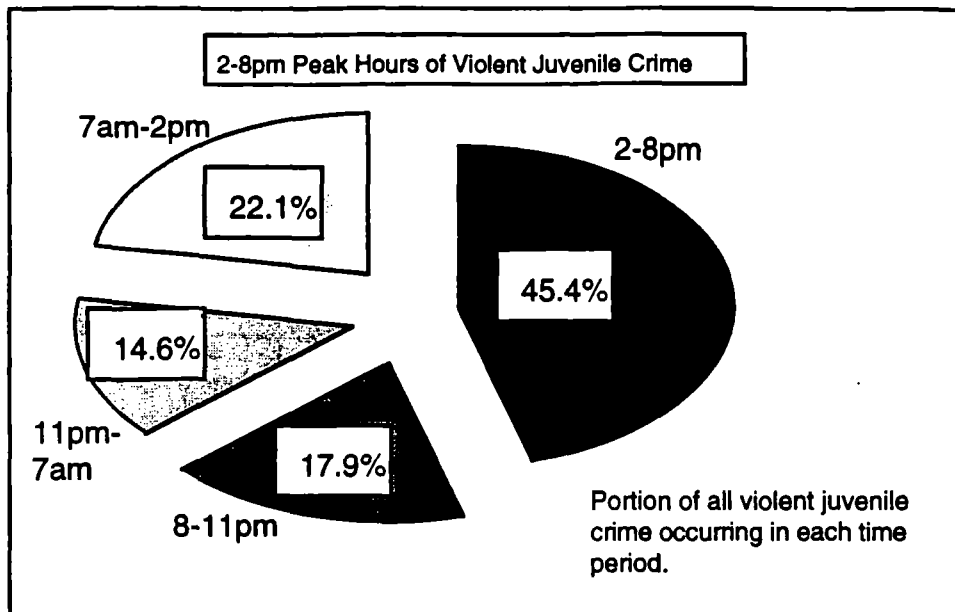


The hour immediately following school dismissal (3:00 PM-4:00 PM) yields three times as much juvenile crime as the hour from 1:00 PM-2:00 PM.

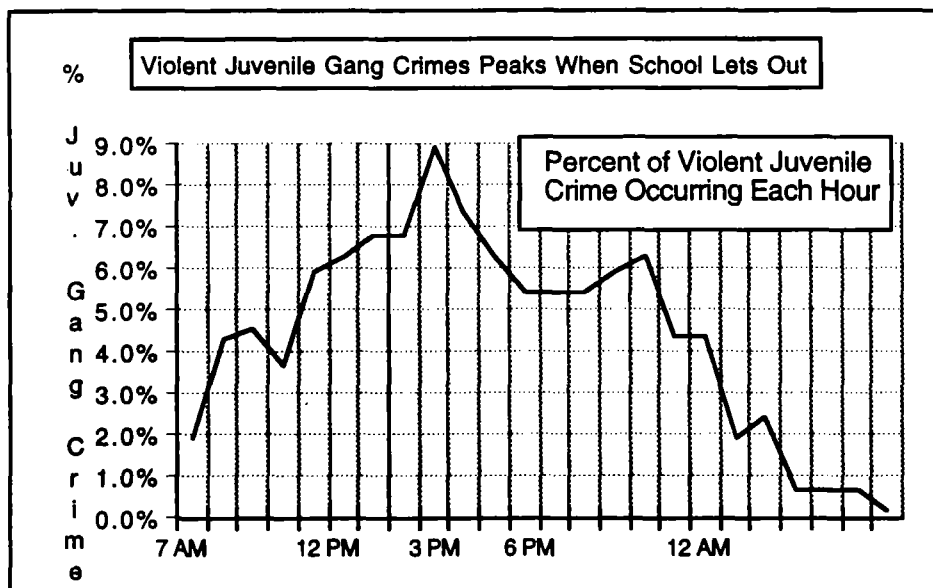


Almost half (45.4%) of all violent juvenile crime on school days takes place between 2:00 in the afternoon, when youngsters begin to be let out of school, and 8:00 in the evening. An additional 17.9% takes place between 8:00 PM and 11:00 PM., for a total of almost two thirds

(63%) taking place in this eight-hour after-school and evening time period. In contrast, only about one seventh (14.6%) of all juvenile crime takes place during the "graveyard shift" from 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM.



Included in the newly released statistics are important data collected by the University of California-Irvine's Focused Research Group on Orange County Street Gangs. These data collected in 1994 and 1995, show that 60% of all juvenile gang crime occurred on school days, and, like other juvenile crime, it peaks immediately following school dismissal.³



³ Ibid.

II. Impact of After-School Programs on Juvenile Crime

Quality after-school (and summer) programs can be expected to reduce juvenile crime in two ways:

A. Immediate "Safe Haven and Control" Effects. Immediately upon implementation, after-school programs provide responsible adult supervision, constructive activities, and insulation from deleterious pressure from peers and older children during high-risk hours. By replacing unsupervised hours spent exposed to dangerous influences on a street corner with hours spent under supervision, after-school programs might be expected to eliminate all or most of the crimes participating youngsters might otherwise commit during those hours.

If the juvenile violent crime rate for the period from 3:00 PM-8:00 PM were brought down to school-hour levels, this would eliminate nearly one quarter (23%) of all juvenile violent crime committed on school days. (Of course, investments in weekend and summer programs could also be expected to have a major impact on crime committed on days when school is not in session, but consideration of that impact is reserved for a future analysis.)

Of course, not all youngsters would participate in after-school programs even if a wide variety of high-quality programs were available. It is difficult to predict voluntary participation rates, much less to predict how many teens might be required to participate by their parents. In addition, if quality after-school programs were accessible to all families, some localities might choose to require for children of specified ages that parents either provide supervision themselves, or make arrangements for alternative adult supervision. As a result, the immediate "control impact" would fall somewhat short of the one-quarter to one-third reduction which might otherwise be indicated.

B. Values and Skills Effect -- beginning quickly and building steadily. Recent research makes clear that the impact of after-school and other quality programs for children and youth far exceeds the "Safe Haven and Control" effect. Beginning in the first months and building steadily, quality after-school programs can be expected to have an enormous impact on the attitudes, values and skills of participating children.

Children spend only about one hour in school for every five hours awake.⁴ How they spend the other four hours, not surprisingly, plays a major role in their development. Quality programs help children learn the skills they need to succeed academically, gain experience in serving their communities, and develop the attitudes, values and skills they need to contribute as good neighbors, family members and citizens.

⁴ School Aged Child Care Project, Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College, "Fact Sheet on School-Age Children," p. 1, September 1996.

1. Developmental risks for latchkey children and youth.

The need for after-school care has grown dramatically in recent years. In 1970, 37% of families with children under eighteen—already a very substantial percentage—lacked full-time parental supervision.⁵ By 1992, that percentage had increased to 57%.⁶ Part of this increase is attributable to the growing number of single-parent families due to both increasing divorce and increasing out-of-wedlock births. However, two-thirds of this increase is a result of the increased number of families in which both parents work outside the home, often by necessity.⁷

Today, an estimated 17 million parents need care for their school-aged children.⁸ Experts estimate that between five and seven million "latchkey children" go home alone after school, and that roughly 35% of twelve-year-olds are regularly left to fend for themselves while their parents are at work.⁹

Latchkey children are at significantly greater risk of truancy, receiving poor grades, and risk-taking behavior including substance abuse.¹⁰ The more hours they spend on their own, and the earlier they begin doing so, the greater the risk.¹¹ Eighth-graders who were unsupervised for eleven or more hours per week were twice as likely to abuse drugs or alcohol as those under adult supervision.¹²

Even among those who have adult supervision, the quality of their after-school care varies widely-- and matters a great deal.

We know, for example, that children spend more of their out-of-school time watching TV than any other activity. Children's television viewing has been associated with lower reading achievement, behavioral problems, and increased aggression. When children watch more than three hours a day of television or watch violent programs, these risks increase.¹³

5 James Alan Fox, "Trends in Juvenile Violence: A Report to the United States Attorney General on Current and Future Rates of Juvenile Offending," Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. March, 1996, p. 12; Current Population Survey.

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

8 Michelle Seligson, "School-Age Child Care Comes of Age," Child Care Action News, Vol. 14, No. 1, Jan.-Feb., 1997

9 Ibid.

10 Dwyer, K.M., Richardson, J.L., Danley, K.L., Hansen, W.B., Sussman, S.Y., Brannon, B., Dent, C.W., Johnson, C.A., and Flay, B.R. (1990) "Characteristics of eighth grade students who initiate self-care in elementary and junior high school." *Pediatrics* 86, 448-454.

11 Ibid.

12 Richardson, J.L., et al. "Substance use among eighth-grade students who take care of themselves after school," *Pediatrics* 84 (3), 556-566.

13 School Age Child Care Project, Ibid.

While upper middle-class families are often able to patch together a series of lessons or other activities to fill much of their out-of-school time, many children are left to spend their out-of-school time at home alone or on a dangerous street corner. This problem has been exacerbated by funding cuts for youth programs beginning in the early 1980's.

Children, especially adolescents, crave excitement and group activity. If they can't find it in programs organized by responsible adults, they become far more likely to find it in gangs. Too many children today have too little access to structured activity with positive role models, and are left to spend too much time "hanging out" or watching a few savage killings on television.¹⁴

2. Proven Developmental Benefits from after-school programs

Just as it is now clear that the lack of adult supervision and quality programs in the after-school hours places children at risk, it is clear that quality after-school programs have important impacts which are revealed in immediate crime reduction and enhanced experiences and characteristics which have been shown to be important "protective factors," making children less likely to engage in crime.

For example, a study of a 32-month after-school recreation program in a Canadian public housing project compared arrests of juveniles with those of another housing project providing only minimal recreational services. Compared to the two years prior to the program, the number of juvenile arrests declined by 75% during the course of the program in the experimental project, but increased by 67% in the comparison project.¹⁵ Such dramatic results cannot be explained strictly on the basis of an "immediate control" impact.

A Columbia University study of housing projects in which Boys and Girls Clubs had been established as a part of the Justice Department's Operation Weed and Seed program showed that juvenile arrests were 13% lower than in projects without a Club. Moreover, drug activity was 22% lower in projects with a Club.¹⁶

A recent study of low-income children attending high-quality after-school programs showed that they got along better with their peers and had better grades, school conduct and emotional adjustment than other children. These children also had more learning opportunities and spent more time in academic or academically enriching activities and less time watching television.¹⁷

Similarly, a recent University of Wisconsin Study of 64 after-school programs supported by the Cooperative Extension Service found that teachers reported that these programs had helped

14 James Fox, *Ibid.*, p.3.

15 M.A. Jones and D.R. Offord, "Reduction of Antisocial Behavior in Poor Children by Nonschool Skill-Development," *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry and Allied Disciplines* 30:737-750 (1989).

16 Schinke, P., Orlandi, M., and Cole, K., "Boys & Girls Clubs in Public Housing Developments: Prevention Services for Youth at Risk," *Journal Of Community Psychology*, OSAP Special Issue, 1992.

17 Posner, J.K. and Vandell, D.L. (1994) Low-income children's after-school care: Are there beneficial effects of after-school programs? *Child Development* 65, 440-456.

children become more cooperative and better at handling conflicts. These children also developed greater interest in recreational reading and received better grades. Strikingly, a full third of the school principals at these sites claimed that vandalism at the school had decreased as a result of the programs.¹⁸

Additional evidence comes from school enrichment, mentoring, and neighborhood activity programs which show what a critical difference constructive use of out-of-school time can make. For example, a Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters' carefully designed mentoring program showed that young people randomly assigned to receive a mentor were only about half as likely to begin illegal drug use during the period of study as those randomly assigned to the control group.¹⁹ Among minority applicants, controls were three times as likely as participants to start using drugs.²⁰ Those who received mentors were also 38% less likely to initiate alcohol use during the period of study.²¹ And, in a sign that the mentoring program had an impact on violent behavior, those in the mentoring program were only half as likely to have hit someone during the period of study.²²

Moreover, randomly assigned participants in a high school Quantum Opportunities Program, which incorporates counseling, academic enrichment, life skills instruction, community service projects and financial incentives, were less than one quarter as likely to be convicted of a crime as those in a control group. It is important to note that while there are long-term impacts from programs such as these, (for example, those who participated in Quantum Opportunities were 50% more likely to graduate high school on time and two and a half times more likely to attend post-secondary schooling) the impact on arrests was virtually immediate. The program started when the youngsters began high school, and decreased arrests during the four years of high school by 75%.

18 Riley, D., Steinberg, J., Todd, C., Junge, S., McClain, I. (1994) Preventing Problem Behavior and raising academic performance in the nation's youth: The impacts of 64 school age child care programs in 15 states supported by the Cooperative Extension Service Youth-At-Risk Initiative. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin.

19 11.5% of the applicants denied a mentor initiated drug use during the period, compared to 6.2% of Little Brothers/Little Sisters. Joseph, Tierney, Jean Baldwin Grossman and Nancy L. Resch, "Making a Difference: An Impact Study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters," Public/Private Ventures, November, 1995, page 33.

20 Ibid.

21 Ibid. 26.72% of the control group initiated alcohol use during the study, compared to 19.4% of the Little Brothers/Little Sisters.

22 Ibid. at p. 50.

Conclusion

It is now clear that prime time for juvenile crime begins when the afternoon school bell rings.

By the year 2005, the number of teens will increase by roughly 15% as the baby boomerang generation grows up. If we fail to invest in these children, their increasing numbers could mean an increase in crime. However, the concentration of violent juvenile crime in these after-school hours makes it especially accessible to preventive intervention.

Quality after-school programs are a key part of the solution. It seems reasonable to postulate that if quality after school programs were readily available to all young people, the "Safe Haven and Control" effect alone would result in a major decrease in violent juvenile crime.

The youth development "Values and Skills Effect" of such programs — their role in providing the adult supervision, positive role models, and constructive activities that help youngsters develop the values and skills they need to become responsible, contributing citizens— would likely have an even larger crime reduction impact.

If after-school programs were combined with both some of the other proven youth development programs described in this report, and some of the early childhood programs proven to reduce subsequent crime and delinquency,²³ even more dramatic reductions in crime could be achieved.

²³For example:

- The High Scope Educational Research Foundation's Perry Preschool project offered a randomly selected group of at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds a program of quality preschool care and a weekly home visit by parenting coaches. Twenty-three years later, the study found that the **kids denied these services when they were toddlers were five times more likely to become chronic lawbreakers by age 27.** (Lawrence J. Schweinhart, Helen B. Barnes, and David P. Weikart, *Significant Benefits: The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 27*, High/Scope Educational Research Foundation, Michigan: High/Scope Press, 1993. A chronic lawbreaker is defined as someone who has been arrested 4 or more times.)
- A similar Syracuse University Family Development Study showed that preschoolers denied its quality child care and home visiting program were **ten times more likely to become delinquent when they reached their teen-age years.** (J. Ronald Lally, Peter L. Mangione, Alice S. Honig, and Donna S. Wittner, "More Pride, Less Delinquency: Findings from the Ten-Year Follow-up Study of the Syracuse University Family Development Research Program," *The Zero to Three Child Care Anthology, 1984-1992*, Arlington: Zero to Three, 1992.)
- Child abuse and neglect are also key risk factors for later criminal behavior. Studies have shown that a child who is abused or neglected is twice as likely as other children to become a chronic lawbreaker as an adult, and as much as 67 times more likely to be arrested by age 12. (Michael G. Maxfield and Cathy Spatz Widom, "The Cycle of Violence: Revisited 6 Years Later," *Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine* Vol. 150, April 1996; Cathy Spatz Widom, "The Cycle of Violence," National Institute of Justice, October 1992; and "Sacramento County Community Intervention Program: Findings from a comprehensive study by community partners in child welfare, law

Until the nation makes such investments in after-school and other programs for children and youth, we are likely to continue to pay a heavy price in crime and violence.

enforcement, juvenile justice, and the Child Welfare League of America," Child Welfare League of America, June 1997.)

The good news is that home visitor programs — offering at-home parenting coaching to at-risk parents who want it — have been shown to cut child abuse and neglect in half. (Olds, David, *et al.*, "Improving the Life-course Development of Socially disadvantaged Parents: A Randomized Trial of Nurse Home Visitation," *American Journal of Public Health* 78, 1436-1445, 1988; James C. Howell, editor, *Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders*, U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, May 1995. See also Center on Child Abuse Prevention Research, National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, "Intensive Home Visitation: A Randomized Trial, Follow-up and Risk Assessment Study of Hawaii's Healthy Start Program," June 1996; and National Institute of Justice, "Helping to Prevent Child Abuse — Future Criminal Consequences: Hawaii Healthy Start," October 1995.)

Yet despite the mountain of evidence that the first years of life are critical to the development of the brain and of a child's attitudes, programs like Early Head Start (for infants) and the in-home parenting coaching that we know can head off abuse and neglect are so under-funded that they can reach only a tiny fraction of the infants who need them. Regular Head Start begins at age three, but reaches barely a third of eligible kids— and then only part of the day, only part of the year — and is starved for the funds needed to maintain high-quality programs.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Appendix: Data Used for Analysis						
2							
3	Percentage violent juvenile crime occurring by hour on days when school is in session.						
4							
5							
6	All Juveniles	Hour			Gang	Hour	
7		7 AM	2.3%			7 AM	1.9%
8		8 AM	3.0%			8 AM	4.3%
9		9 AM	2.1%			9 AM	4.6%
10		10 AM	2.8%			10 AM	3.7%
11		11 AM	2.8%			11 AM	6.0%
12		12 PM	3.7%			12 PM	6.3%
13		1 PM	3.5%			1 PM	6.8%
14		2 PM	4.9%			2 PM	6.8%
15		3 PM	11.4%			3 PM	8.9%
16		4 PM	8.2%			4 PM	7.4%
17		5 PM	6.8%			5 PM	6.3%
18		6 PM	6.5%			6 PM	5.4%
19		7 PM	3.6%			7 PM	5.4%
20		8 PM	6.3%			8 PM	5.4%
21		9 PM	5.3%			9 PM	6.0%
22		10 PM	4.7%			10 PM	6.3%
23		11 PM	4.2%			11 PM	4.4%
24		12 AM	3.0%			12 AM	4.4%
25		1 AM	1.8%			1 AM	1.9%
26		2 AM	1.4%			2 AM	2.5%
27		3 AM	1.2%			3 AM	0.7%
28		4 AM	0.7%			4 AM	0.7%
29		5 AM	0.5%			5 AM	0.7%
30		6 AM	0.5%			6 AM	0.2%
31							

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

FIGHT CRIME



INVEST IN KIDS

POLICE

Phillip Arreola
Chief, Tacoma, WA
Sherman Block
Sheriff, LA County, CA
William Bratton
Fmr. Commiss'r., NYC
A. Cabral
President, Int'l Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO
M. Esserman
Chief, Metro North, NY
Gilbert G. Gallegos
President, Fraternal
Order of Police
E. Douglas Hamilton
Chief, Louisville, KY
Phil E. Keith
Chief, Knoxville, TN
R. Gill Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo, NY
Talmadge N. Moore
Chief, Ft. Wayne, IN
Charles A. Moose
Chief, Portland, OR
Patrick V. Murphy
Former Commiss'r., NYC,
DC, Detroit, Syracuse
Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief, Charlotte-
lenburg, NC
Matt L. Rodriguez
Superintendent, Chicago, IL
Joseph Samuels
Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrel W. Stephens
Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Jack O'Malley
Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL
Elliot L. Richardson
Former US Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Fdr., Mothers of All Children
Ellen Halbert
Editor, National Crime
Victims Report
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
Marc Klass
Fdr., Klass Fan. for Children
Dennis Lee, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

To: Jennifer Klein

From: Sandy Newman Pages: 4

October 17, 1997

Dear Jennifer,

Thanks for your message. If the decision on a chief's participation changes, just let us know. There's a decent chance we can line a good spokesperson up on pretty short notice. Whatever the decision on that, the Conference is bound to shine a valuable spotlight on these issues, and we're delighted that it's happening.

I've enclosed a draft of the fact sheet we've prepared for your press kits.

It needs a bit of reformatting to make the text easier to follow, to put the "prime time for juvenile crime" graph with the text that explains it, etc.

We could do that today and get you camera-ready copy, but didn't want to put more time into it until we knew:

a) whether you'll be using it in your kits (If it were just going in the press materials we'll be distributing on our own, it would be formatted differently to prominently display our logo and board of advisors.)

b) whether there are text changes you'd like to see, or whether you prefer simply to draw from this the information you want, and to prepare your own;

c) whether there is some standard format you are following, or a particular kind of letterhead you are putting all of these items on.

If you'll give us a bit of feedback, we'll be glad to take the next steps.

Judging from the time my voice mail said the message was received (10:00 PM), it sounds like you're working a second shift after your son is in bed. If you need to reach me in the evening or on the weekend, my home number is (301) 589-8541.

Looking forward to the conference,

Warmly,

Sandy Newman
Sandy Newman

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Flitzsimons

Media Director
John W. Bartlett

NATIONAL CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESOURCE COUNCIL

Barbara T. Bowman, M.A.
President, Erickson Institute of
Advanced Study in Child
Development
John A. Calhoun, M.P.A.
Executive Director, National
Crime Prevention Council
Donald J. Cohen, M.D.
Director, Yale Child Study
Center
Stanford Dornbusch, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, Stanford;
Advisory Board Chair, Stanford
Center on Adolescence
Craig W. Floyd
Chair, National Law Enforcement
Officers Memorial Fund
James A. Fox, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern University
John W. Gardner, Ph.D.
Former US Secretary of Health,
Education, and Welfare;
Consulting Professor, Stanford
Richard Garber, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor of
Psychiatry, GWU Med. School
Alice S. Honig, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita, Child
Development, Syracuse Univ.
Thomas C. Joe, M.A.
Director, Center for the
Study of Social Policy
J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D.
Dir., Ctr. for Child and Family
Studies, Far West Laboratory
Steven Marans, Ph.D.
Director, Program on Child
Development-Community
Policing, Yale Child Study Ctr.
Ray Marshall, Ph.D.
Former US Secretary of Labor;
Chair in Economics and Public
Affairs, Univ. of Texas - Austin
Jack McDavitt, Ph.D.
Professor, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern Univ.;
Co-Director, Center for Criminal
Justice Policy Research
Lisbeth B. Schorr
Lecturer in Social Medicine,
Harvard University
David P. Welkart, Ph.D.
President, High/Scope
Educational Research Fdn.
Bernice Weissbourd
President, Family Resource
Council
Richard Weissbourd, Ph.D.
Professor, Kennedy School of
Government, Harvard
Chuck Wexler, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Police
Executive Research Forum
Edward Zigler, Ph.D.
Director, Bush Center in Child
Development and Social Policy,
Yale University

DRAFT

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ARE OUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME

We must spare no effort in making sure that dangerous criminals are behind bars. But that strategy by itself will never be enough to win the war against crime. Criminologists, child development experts, police, prosecutors and crime survivors all report the same conclusion: **Our most powerful anti-crime weapons are investments in programs to help children and youth get the right start** — early childhood programs like Head Start for toddlers and Early Head Start for infants, and youth development programs for the hours when school is not in session.

"We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable children, instead of waiting until they become America's Most Wanted' adults."

— Buffalo (NY) Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske,
President, Police Executive Research Forum

Programs like these can help all children develop the skills and values they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults. When we fail to invest in these powerful "right start" anti-crime weapons, we all pay an enormous price.

Quality Child Development Programs: Proven to Cut Crime Dramatically

Powerful evidence from studies nationwide show that the first years of life are crucial to healthy social and emotional

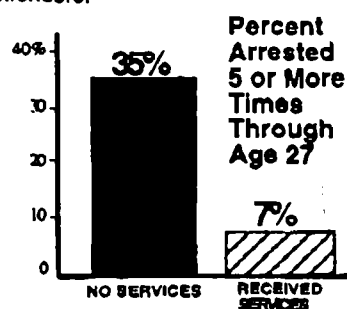
"America's fight against crime must begin in the high chair, not the electric chair. Anything less leaves America's police fighting with one hand tied behind our backs."

— Winston-Salem (NC) Chief of Police George Sweat

Perry Preschool & Home Visit Program's Impact

Decrease in Crime

Preschool and weekly home visits led to an 80% drop in the number of chronic offenders.



development — and that quality early childhood care can dramatically reduce crime. For example:

- A study at the Perry Preschool in Michigan offered at-risk toddlers a quality Head Start-style preschool program, supplemented by weekly in-home coaching for parents. Twenty-two years later, those who had been denied the services as toddlers were *five times more likely* to be chronic lawbreakers age 27.
- A similar program in Syracuse, providing child development and health services for at-risk infants and toddlers and parenting support for their mothers and fathers, found that kids denied the services were *ten times more likely* to be delinquent by age 16.

Quality After School Programs: Building Values and Skills to Shut Down "Prime Time for Juvenile Crime"

The peak hours for violent juvenile crime are 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. In the hour after the school bell rings, juvenile crime suddenly *triples* and prime time for juvenile crime begins. Nearly half of all violent juvenile crime occurs between 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and almost *two thirds* occurs in the nine hours between 2:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

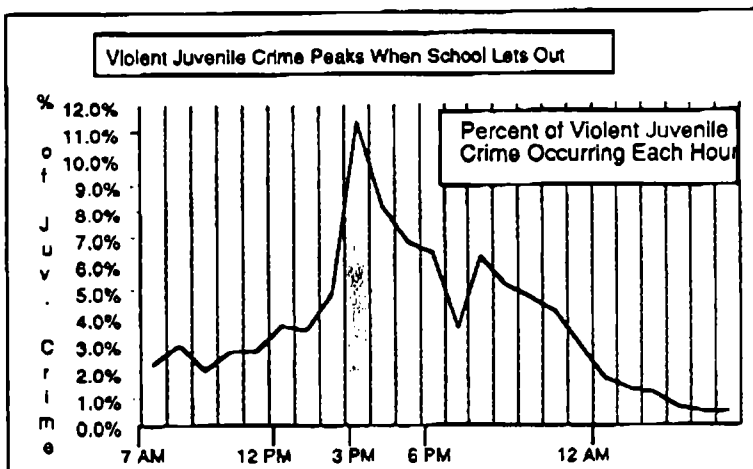
DRAFT

Quality youth development programs can cut crime dramatically — by offering school-age kids a safe haven from negative influences and constructive activities that teach them the values and skills they need to succeed.

"When the peak hours of violent juvenile crime are between the end of school and 8:00 p.m., it's just common sense to provide the after-school programs that give kids the values and skills they need to say 'no' to the street."

— Patrick V. Murphy, former Police Commissioner in New York City, Washington, Detroit and Syracuse

- A study of an after-school recreation program in a public housing project compared juvenile arrests with those in another housing project providing only minimal recreational services. The number of juvenile arrests declined by 75 percent in the project served by the experimental program, but increased by 67 percent in the comparison project.
- A Columbia University study of housing projects in which Boys and Girls Clubs had been established as a part of the Justice Department's "Operation Weed and Seed" program showed that juvenile arrests were 13 percent lower than in projects without a Club. Drug activity was 22 percent lower in projects with a Club.



- A recent study of low-income children attending high-quality after-school programs showed that they spent more time in academically enriching activities and less time watching television, got along better with others, and had better grades and school conduct than other children. Similarly, a recent University of Wisconsin study showed after-school programs had reduced vandalism and helped children become more cooperative, better at handling conflicts, more interested in reading, and better students.

Brothers/Big Sisters' carefully-designed mentoring program showed that young people randomly assigned to receive a trained mentor were only about half as likely to begin illegal drug use or to hit someone as those randomly assigned to the control group.

- Participants randomly assigned to a high school Quantum Opportunities Program of counseling, academic and life skills support, community service and financial incentives, were less than one-quarter as likely to be convicted of a crime during the high-risk high school years as those in a control group. In other words, *the impact on arrests was virtually immediate* — and denying kids these services *quadrupled* the likelihood that they would be convicted of a crime while in high school. Moreover, those who participated in the program were 50 percent more likely to graduate high school on time and two-and-a-half times more likely to attend post-secondary schooling.

- A Public/Private Ventures study of Big

Police, Prosecutors and Crime Victims Support Early Childhood and After-School Programs

The people on the front lines of the war on crime overwhelmingly support crime-prevention investments in kids. In a 1996 Northeastern University poll...

"We guarantee criminals taxpayer-provided room and board in a jail cell. Shouldn't we be just as ready to prevent crime by guaranteeing good child care to a toddler and quality after-school programs for older kids?"

— Chicago Police Superintendent Matt Rodriguez, Chair, Major Cities Police Chiefs Association; Co-Chair, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ILLINOIS

- 92 percent of police chiefs nationwide agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start" by "fully funding

DRAFT

Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after school programs and mentoring."

- Nine out of ten chiefs also agreed that *"if America doesn't pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare, and other costs."*

Police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, the parents of murdered children and crime victims — including former U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson, the heads of the nation's leading police officer and police chief organizations, and the president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children — have even formed an organization called FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS, to support public policies that employ all of our most powerful preventive weapons in the war on crime.

Investing in Kids Saves Lives and Money

When America fails to invest in kids, we all pay far more later in criminal justice system costs, welfare, social services and other costs. For example:

- Economist Steven Barnett found that the High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone. Even after subtracting the interest that could have been earned by investing the program's funding in financial markets, the project produced a net savings of \$7.16 — including more than six dollars in crime savings — for every dollar invested.

"We could be saving thousands of lives — and sparing thousands of families unimaginable heartbreak — by investing up front in the proven early childhood care and youth development programs that can turn kids away from crime."

— Jean Lewis, President, National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children

- Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million taxpayer dollars.

"The bottom line: Ignoring proven prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. If we really want to fight crime, it's time to invest in the early childhood enrichment and after-school programs that help kids get the right start and that keep Americans safe."

— former U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson

This information was excerpted from reports by

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

(202) 638-0690 • (800) 245-6476

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE****POLICE**

Phillip Arreola
Chief, Tacoma, WA
Sherman Block
Sheriff, LA County, CA
William Bratton
Fmr. Commis'r., NYC
Sam A. Cabral
President, Int'l Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO
Dean M. Esserman
Chief, Metro North, NY
Gilbert G. Gallegos
President, Fraternal
Order of Police
E. Douglas Hamilton
Chief, Louisville, KY
Phil E. Keith
Chief, Knoxville, TN
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo, NY
Talmadge N. Moore
Chief, Ft. Wayne, IN
Charles A. Moore
Chief, Portland, OR
Patrick V. Murphy
Former Commis'r., NYC,
DC, Detroit, Syracuse
Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief, Charlotte-
Mecklenburg, NC
Matt L. Rodriguez
Superintendent, Chicago, IL
Joseph Samuels
Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrel W. Stephens
Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Jack O'Malley
Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL
Elliot L. Richardson
Former US Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Fdr., Mothers of All Children
Ellen Halbert
Editor, National Crime
Victims Report
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
Marc Klass
Fdr., Klass Fdn. for Children
Dennis Lees, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME****INVEST
IN KIDS**

To: Jennifer Klein

From: Sandy Newman

Pages: 4

10/12/97

Dear Jennifer,

I've attached the memo summarizing the reasons we think it would be a mistake to omit the voices of police chiefs and crime victims from the upcoming conference.

Our concern about the conference is the same concern that led us to start Fight Crime in the first place. We're convinced that:

a) the prospect for winning investments in kids on an appropriate scale hinges on persuading Americans that they have a vital self-interest in investing in other people's kids;

b) explaining the crime prevention impact of such investments is the easiest and most powerful way to do that;

c) this message is far more likely to be heard and credited above the din of politics if it is conveyed by police chiefs and crime victims.

Whether the police chief and/or crime victim conveying that message are affiliated with Fight Crime isn't particularly important to us, though we're glad to help. We just think that it would be a shame not to maximize, whether through one of our chiefs or some else, the power of this argument.

I sympathize with the difficulty of trying to pack so much into so little time, and I don't pretend to be more expert than the White House staff in crafting messages. If you do wind up deciding to focus the first panel on academics, I'd be glad both to suggest scholars who can best cover crime prevention in their review of the other benefits of after-school and early childhood programs, and to help you avoid some folks whose related research might create problems for you. And if you should decide you want a police chief in the second panel rather than the first, we'll be glad to suggest chiefs who have been deeply involved in expanding child care and after-school programs in their communities.

Please let us know how we can be most helpful.

Warmly,

Sandy Newman

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Breandan J. Fitzsimons

Media Director
John W. Bartlett

**NATIONAL CRIME AND
VIOLENCE PREVENTION
RESOURCE COUNCIL**

Barbara T. Bowman, M.A.
President, Erickson Institute of
Advanced Study in Child
Development
John A. Calhoun, M.P.A.
Executive Director, National
Crime Prevention Council
Donald J. Cohen, M.D.
Director, Yale Child Study
Center
Sanford Dornbusch, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, Stanford;
Advisory Board Chair, Stanford
Center on Adolescence
Craig W. Floyd
Chair, National Law Enforce-
ment Officers Memorial Fund
James A. Fox, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern University
John W. Gardner, Ph.D.
Former US Secretary of Health,
Education, and Welfare;
Consulting Professor, Stanford
Richard Gerber, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor of
Psychiatry, GWU Med. School
Alice S. Honig, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita, Child
Development, Syracuse Univ.
Thomas C. Joe, M.A.
Director, Center for the
Study of Social Policy
J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D.
Dir., Ctr. for Child and Family
Studies, Far West Laboratory
Steven Marans, Ph.D.
Director, Program on Child
Development-Community
Policing, Yale Child Study Ctr.
Ray Marshall, Ph.D.
Former US Secretary of Labor;
Chair in Economics and Public
Affairs, Univ. of Texas - Austin
Jack McDevitt, Ph.D.
Professor, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern Univ.;
Co-Director, Center for Crim
Justice Policy Research
Lisbeth B. Schorr
Lecturer in Social Medicine,
Harvard University
David P. Weikart, Ph.D.
President, HighScope
Educational Research Fdn.
Bernice Weisabour
President, Family Resource
Council
Richard Weisabour, Ph.D.
Professor, Kennedy School of
Government, Harvard
Chuck Wexler, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Police
Executive Research Forum
Edward Zigler, Ph.D.
Director, Bush Center in Child
Development and Social Policy,
Yale University

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE****POLICE****Phillip Arreola**

Chief, Tacoma, WA

Sherman Block

Sheriff, LA County, CA

William Bratton

Fmr. Commiss., NYC

A. Cabral

President, Int'l Union of

Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO

Gerald A. Cooper

Fmr. Chief, Evanston, IL

Dean M. Esserman

Chief, Metro North, NY

Gilbert G. Gallegos

President, Fraternal

Order of Police

E. Douglas Hamilton

Chief, Louisville, KY

Phil E. Keith

Chief, Knoxville, TN

R. Gil Karlikowski

Commissioner, Buffalo, NY

Talmadge N. Moore

Chief, Ft. Wayne, IN

Charles A. Moore

Chief, Portland, OR

Patrick V. Murphy

Former Commiss., NYC,

DC, Detroit, Syracuse

Dennis E. Nowicki

Chief, Charlotte-

Mecklenburg, NC

Nicholas Pastore

Chief, New Haven, CT

Mat L. Rodriguez

Superintendent, Chicago, IL

Joseph Samuels

Chief, Oakland, CA

Darrel W. Stephens

Chief, St. Petersburg, FL

Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.

Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO

Donald H. Warshaw

Chief, Miami, FL

Robert S. Warshaw

Chief, Rochester, NY

Elizabeth M. Watson

Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS**Ronald Earle**

District Atty., Travis Co., TX

Norman S. Early, Jr.

Former D.A., Denver, CO

Jack O'Malley

State's Atty., Cook Co., IL

Ralph C. Martin, II

District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA

Elliot L. Richardson

Former Attorney General

and Secretary of HEW, of

Defense and of Commerce

Grant Woods

Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS**Frances Davis**

Fdr., Mothers of All Children

Ellen Halbert

Vice-Chair, Texas Board of

Criminal Justice

Carole Grant Hall

Director, Ginger Ridge

Residents' Initiative

Marc Klass

Fdr., Klass Fdn. for Children

Dennis Lee, Ph.D.

Mgr., Mental Health Clinic

Jean Lewis

President, Parents of

Murdered Children

Gordon Rondeau &**Elaine Rondeau**

Founders, Action America:

Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME****INVEST
IN KIDS****MEMORANDUM**

To: Jennifer Klein
 From: Sandy Newman
 Date: October 13, 1997
 RE: Framing child care as a crime prevention issue

While advocates for children have already persuaded many Americans that assuring all children an opportunity to succeed is morally desirable, moral arguments by themselves are rarely sufficient to win major changes in public policy.

But when large numbers of Americans also become convinced — regardless of their compassion for children — that they have a deep, personal self-interest in early childhood and youth development programs, the combined power of moral concerns and enlightened self-interest can become an irresistible force for change.

Since most Americans don't currently have kids in need of child care, efforts to tap into self-interest concerns have for years focused on "workforce of the future" or other economic arguments. It appears that, while these arguments have a role to play, especially in winning business support, the explanations they require are too complex, and macroeconomic concerns too abstract, to engage public passions on a broad scale.

I. Child Care Investments *can* be won when Americans understand that such investments are key solutions to their concerns about crime.

Unlike concerns about workforce preparation twenty years hence, concerns about crime generate passion, and are shared by nearly every American family. If we can help the public understand that investments in early childhood and after-school programs dramatically reduce crime and violence, we can transform the heat generated by the crime issue into light for children and families.

But when advocates, scholars or elected officials have argued that investing in kids is an important strategy in preventing crime, their message has too often been dismissed by a cynical press and public as a "smoke screen for a liberal agenda."

B. Police and crime victims are uniquely positioned to get that message across to the public:

- Their commitment to fighting crime and their practical, common-sense understanding of crime's impact is beyond question. They are trusted to be genuinely concerned about that issue.
- Tough crime fighters speaking out for child care solutions engage the predilection of press and public to pay attention to "the unexpected," even winning new attention for what might otherwise be dismissed as "ivory tower studies" inapplicable to the real world.)
- They are seen as conservative representatives of traditional values.

C. The Evidence is Clear: Investments in Afterschool Youth Development and Early Childhood Programs Dramatically Reduce Crime.

As you know, we recently held a press conference with the Attorney General to release our After School Programs or After School Crime report showing that violent juvenile crime triples in the hour after the school dismissal bells ring, with nearly half of all such crime taking place from 2- 8 PM, and two-thirds from 2-11 PM.

When ordinary Americans are presented with this information — which most people find surprising and therefore striking— they intuitively grasp that after-school programs can dramatically reduce crime.

The direct research evidence of early childhood programs' crime prevention impact is actually even stronger than that on the impact of after school programs. As you'll notice from the attached fact sheet, first-rate studies support statements from police chiefs like:

"When studies show that denying at-risk kids early childhood programs can multiply by five to ten times the risk that they will grow up to menace the rest of us, it's just common sense to invest in early childhood care and development programs. Isn't it just common sense to give innocent kids quality child development programs and after-school youth development programs today instead of waiting build far more expensive jail cells for them tomorrow?"

As the Winston-Salem Police Chief recently said "Our fight against crime must begin not in the electric chair but in the high chair."

Crime victims like Ellen Halbert (whose attacker raped her, stabbed her 3 times in the chest and neck and then hammered a knife into her skull) are uniquely able to engage public passions as they point out that they might never have been victims if our nation were investing in the early childhood and after-school programs that help kids get the right start.

Those on the front lines of the fight against crime can turn the press's focus on the dramatic and unexpected from a liability to an asset. Their sincerity and their hard-nosed, practical approach to crime's reality can pierce public cynicism. They have the credibility to be heard above the slogans as they challenge assumptions and demand solutions.

While the filibuster's impact in forcing the reduction of crime prevention programs in the '94 crime bill has left some with the impression that the public rejected the argument for investments in prevention, polling even at the height of the GOP attack on prevention funding, as well as other polling directly on children's issues, shows that the public strongly believes the right investments can keep kids out of trouble.

D. Preventing pressure to leave poor families out of the solution.

The Administration has more than once found itself being pressed to go with "middle class only" solutions that do little to help those children whose families are poorest; it has sometimes had difficulty winning support for programs like Head Start or refundable child tax credits, which focus especially on poor children. Framing the child care debate in substantial part as a crime prevention issue is a critical way to make sure that the public understands its self-interest in investing in solutions which help our most vulnerable children get the right start.

E. Conclusion (and Alternatives)

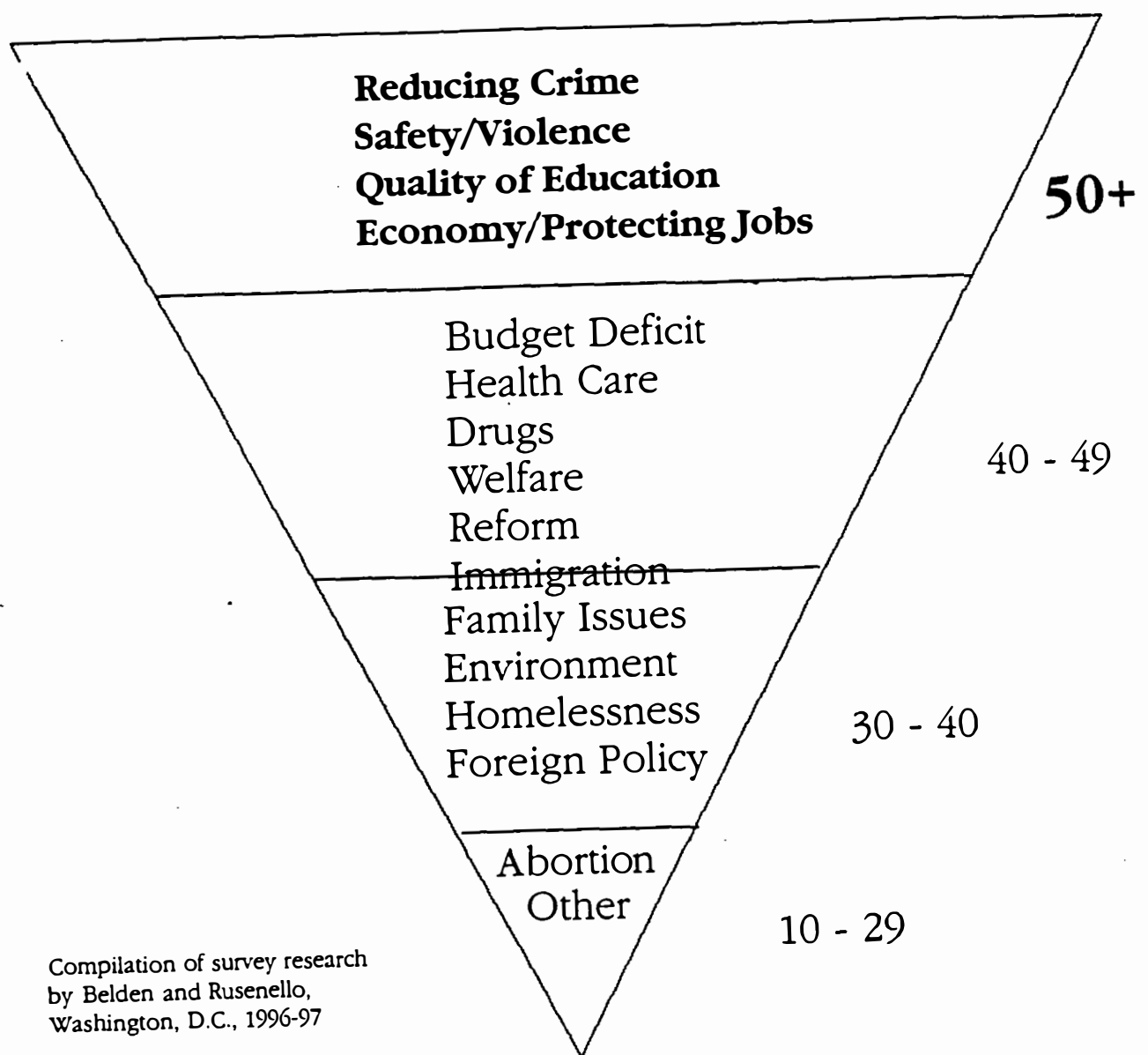
Framing child care and after school issues as critical parts of a crime prevention strategy substantially strengthen the prospects for winning broad and passionate public support for whatever child care and after-school proposals it ultimately chooses to advocate. Police chiefs and crime victims are especially credible in making this case to the public, and several of the chiefs who have appeared at our past press events are now pretty good at getting this message across in under three minutes.

I understand, of course, the difficulty of packing so much into a small number of speakers. If, when you've weighed all the possibilities, you feel that your first panel should be confined to academics, we could suggest some who could do more than others to discuss the crime prevention impact.

Similarly, if you feel that the second panel is the appropriate place to hear these voices, we could suggest police chiefs who have been deeply involved in expanding after-school programs and early childhood programs in their communities.

Of course, whatever your decision regarding the upcoming conference, there will be other opportunities to frame child care as a crime prevention issue. But the earlier the public hears police and crime victims saying that quality child care is a critical crime prevention weapon, the more likely it is to find this a credible lens through which to view the upcoming child care debate. Failure to emphasize this message early in the debate increases the risk that it will later be dismissed as a "smokescreen" for solutions the administration advocates for other reasons.

Ranking of Most Important Issues



Compilation of survey research
by Belden and Rusenello,
Washington, D.C., 1996-97

© CCMC

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

POLICE

Phillip Arreola
Chief, Tacoma, WA
Sherman Block
Sheriff, LA County, CA
William Bratton
Fmr. Commiss'r., NYC
Sam A. Cabral
President, Int'l Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO
Dean M. Esserman
Chief, Metro North, NY
Thomas C. Frazier
Police Commissioner,
Baltimore, MD
Gilbert G. Gallegos
President, Fraternal
Order of Police
E. Douglas Hamilton
Chief, Louisville, KY
Phil E. Keith
Chief, Knoxville, TN
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo, NY
Charles A. Moose
Chief, Portland, OR
Patrick V. Murphy
Former Commiss'r, NYC,
DC, Detroit, Syracuse
Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief, Charlotte, NC
Reuban B. Ortega
Chief, Salt Lake City, UT
Matt L. Rodriguez
Fmr. Police Supt., Chicago, IL
Joseph Samuels
Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrell Sanders
Chief, Frankfort, IL
Darrel W. Stephens
Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Jack O'Malley
Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL
Elliot L. Richardson
Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Jim Ryan
Attorney General, IL
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Fdr., Mothers of All Children
Ellen Halbert
Editor, National Crime
Victims Report
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
Marc Klaas
Fdr., Klaas Fdn. for Children
Dennis Lees, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Bartlett

December 23, 1997

Ms. Karen Tramontano
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Karen:

Congratulations on your new post! (I'm a bit slow to get the news.) I can't tell you how delighted I am to know you are there.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids has come quite a ways since we last talked.

I think we are now in a position to enlist at least several hundred police chiefs, prosecutors and crime victims in calling for a major child care initiative. Over 100 have already signed such a call.

We are concerned though, by press reports of the size and shape the Administration's proposal is likely to take.

I've attached a letter from Elliot Richardson, Gil Kerlikowske and myself, expressing our views and requesting a meeting with the President and appropriate staff. Elliot's name you know. Gil is the Police Commissioner in Buffalo, and heads a major organization of police chiefs.

Karen, I'd be grateful for your help in calling this to the attention of other decision-makers in the White House.

Perhaps we could talk early in January about what additional steps we should take?

Wishing you a wonderful year of joy & satisfaction.
Warmly,
[Signature]
Sandy Newman

Enclosure:

Letter to the President and First Lady with attachments

Elena:

Don't know if you know Sandy - he wants to be helpful - and add the support of law enforcement types to the child care initiative -

He'd like to talk - can you, or someone in your office give him a call. Thank -

Karen

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

POLICE

Philip Arreola

Chief, Tacoma, WA

Sherman Block

Sheriff, LA County, CA

William Bratton

Fmr. Commiss'r., NYC

Sam A. Cabral

President, Int'l Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO

Dean M. Esserman

Chief, Metro North, NY

Thomas C. Frazier

Police Commissioner,
Baltimore, MD

Gilbert G. Gallegos

President, Fraternal
Order of Police

E. Douglas Hamilton

Chief, Louisville, KY

Phil E. Keith

Chief, Knoxville, TN

R. Gil Kerlikowske

Commissioner, Buffalo, NY

Charles A. Moose

Chief, Portland, OR

Patrick J. Murphy

Former Commiss'r., NYC
DC, Detroit, Syracuse

Dennis E. Nowicki

Chief, Charlotte, NC

Reuban B. Ortega

Chief, Salt Lake City, UT

Matt L. Rodriguez

Fmr. Police Supt., Chicago, IL

Joseph Samuels

Chief, Oakland, CA

Darrell Sanders

Chief, Frankfurt, IL

Darrel W. Stephens

Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL

Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.

Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO

Donald H. Warshaw

Chief, Miami, FL

Robert S. Warshaw

Chief, Rochester, NY

Elizabeth M. Watson

Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle

District Atty., Travis Co., TX

Norman S. Early, Jr.

Former D.A., Denver, CO

Ralph C. Martin, II

District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA

Jack O'Malley

Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL

Elliot L. Richardson

Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW of
Defense and of Commerce

Jim Ryan

Attorney General, IL

Grant Woods

Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis

Fdr., Mothers of All Children

Ellen Halbert

Editor, National Crime
Victims Report

Carole Grant Hall

Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents Initiative

Marc Klaas

Fdr., Klaas Fund for Children

Dennis Lees, Ph.D.

Mgr., Mental Health Clinic

Jean Lewis

President, Parents of
Murdered Children

**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**

Founders, Action America
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

January 5, 1997

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20520

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton:

As an organization of police, prosecutors and crime victims, we know that our most powerful weapons against crime are the investments that help children get the right start, helping them develop the values and skills they need to become caring, responsible, contributing adults. It is now clear not only that quality after-school programs can dramatically and immediately reduce crime, but also that quality child care for infants, toddlers and preschool children can have an equally dramatic impact in reducing crime over the longer term.

We therefore applaud the contribution you have made by convening the White House conferences on early childhood development and child care, and the commitment you have made to submit a major child care initiative to Congress early in 1998.

We want you to know that, if your initiative is of sufficient scale and vision and adequately addresses the early childhood and after-school needs of America's low-income children, we will make support of that initiative our top priority in 1998, and will recruit hundreds of police chiefs, prosecutors, rank-and-file police officers and crime victims to join in an intensive campaign in behalf of the initiative. Indeed, such a proposal would be as much a Crime Prevention Initiative as a Child Care Initiative.

Already, more than 100 police chiefs, prosecutors and crime victims have joined our national and state advisory committees and endorsed a call (which we will publicly release in January) to assure that all infants, toddlers, and pre-school children have access to quality child care at a price their families can afford, and that all school-age youngsters have access to after-school programs.

We write to request an opportunity to meet with you and Mrs. Clinton and appropriate staff. In the meantime, we want to urge:

- a) that your child care initiative and budget assure as their top priority that the children of low-income families — those who are otherwise at greatest risk both of being victimized by crime and of becoming involved in criminal activity — have access to quality early childhood care and education and youth development programs in the after-school hours; and

President
Sanford A. Newmar

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Bartlett

- b) that you lay out a long-term plan to eliminate in the area of child care and after-school programs our *crime prevention deficit* — the gaping shortfall in our investment in helping kids get the right start.

We believe it is critical that as a first step your budget propose funding with *increases in mandatory spending* over the next five years of:

- at least \$10 billion for Head Start, so that the program can expand to serve more eligible children, can provide full-day and year-round care for more of the eligible children who need it, and can maintain and further strengthen its quality;
- at least \$5 billion for Early Head Start for children under three; and
- at least \$20 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant to increase the accessibility and quality of child care for children from families making less than 85% of median income, with at least \$5 billion for after-school programs for school-aged youth.

In addition, we urge that at least the federal share of any tobacco settlement revenues be earmarked to meet the developmental needs of children and youth.

We don't need to tell you, Mr. President, that it is the children and youth of America's lowest-income families who are at greatest risk of becoming involved in criminal activity if we fail to provide the parenting education, child care and development and the youth development programs that help them get the right start and provide safe havens and constructive activities in the hours when school is not in session. These are also the children who benefit most from these investments, and for whom society receives the greatest payoff in crime reduction and in other benefits for every dollar it invests.

While tax credits for working families may be a useful part of a balanced strategy, they are simply not likely to be effective in making child care available for families making less than 200% of poverty level, or about 85% of median income. A proposal which fails to assure that those youngsters get the right start would miss the most critical public safety need in the child care and youth development area, throwing away an anti-crime weapon we cannot afford to discard.

The evidence of the remarkable crime-prevention impact of quality early childhood programs is overwhelming. For example:

- A High/Scope Educational Research Foundation study in Michigan randomly admitted half the at-risk three- and four-year-old applicants to its quality pre-school center, and provided their parents with in-home coaching on parenting skills. Twenty-two years later, those who had received these services as toddlers were *just one-fifth as likely* to be chronic law-breakers as kids denied the services.
- In a similar study in Syracuse, at-risk kids who were provided preschool and other services were *only one-tenth as likely* as kids denied those services to be delinquent by age 16.

Programs for school-age youth also have a dramatic and *immediate* anti-crime effect:

- Denying at-risk high school kids participation in a "Quantum Opportunities Program" of counseling, academic and life-skills support and other incentives *quadrupled their risk of being convicted of a crime while in high school*. Providing

these supports doubled students' chances of graduating and made them more likely to go on to post-secondary schooling.

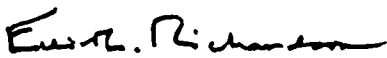
- A new FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS study of FBI data compiled by the National Center for Juvenile Justice tells us that the peak hours of violent juvenile crime are the hours right after school. In fact, in the hour after the school bell rings, starting millions of kids on an unsupervised afternoon without productive outlets for their energy, violent juvenile crime suddenly *triples*. By the time kids go home for dinner, nearly half the day's violent juvenile crimes have been committed. Quality after-school programs could cut juvenile crime dramatically.

The people on the front lines of the war on crime overwhelmingly support these investments. In a Northeastern University poll, *ninety-two percent of police chiefs* nation-wide agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs [like] fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after school programs and mentoring." Nine out of ten chiefs also agreed that "*if America does not pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs.*"

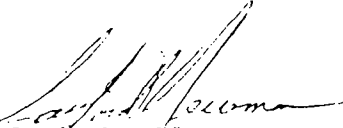
The question is not whether we can afford these programs — it's whether we can afford to saddle future generations with the cost of not making these proven investments today. In fact, investments like these actually *save* billions of tax dollars. The High/Scope preschool study prevented nearly \$150,000 in crime costs *for each child* who participated. Vanderbilt University economist Mark Cohen estimates that every kid we turn away from crime saves \$1.5 million in taxpayer dollars. Indeed, it is hard to imagine any other investment we can make which will so *substantially reduce budgetary demands on the federal government* in the years to come — while beginning to save thousands of innocent lives almost immediately.

Your commitment to assuring that all American children — especially the most at-risk — have access to quality child care and after-school programs would not only help America's children and youth make the most of their lives, but will also dramatically reduce crime and violence and restore public safety.

Sincerely,



Elliot L. Richardson
former United States
Attorney General
National Advisory
Committee Member



Sanford A. Newman
President



R. Gil Kerlikowske *WT*
Commissioner, Buffalo
Police Department
National Advisory
Committee Member

Enclosures

Crime-Prevention Fact Sheet
Selected Press Clips

cc: Paul Begala
Rahm Emanuel
Anne Lewis
Bruce Reed
Gene Sperling
Karen Tramontano



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Media Director
John W. Bartlett

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ARE OUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME

We must spare no effort in making sure that dangerous criminals are behind bars. But that strategy by itself will never be enough to win the war against crime. Criminologists, child development experts, police, prosecutors and crime survivors all report the same conclusion: **Our most powerful anti-crime weapons are investments in programs to help children and youth get the right start** — early childhood programs like Head Start for toddlers and Early Head Start for infants, and youth development programs for the hours when school is not in session.

"We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable children, instead of waiting until they become 'America's Most Wanted' adults."

— Buffalo (NY) Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske,
President, Police Executive Research Forum

Programs like these can help all children develop the skills and values they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults. When we fail to invest in these powerful "right start" anti-crime weapons, we all pay an enormous price.

Quality Child Development Programs: Proven to Cut Crime Dramatically

Powerful evidence from studies nationwide show that the first years of life are crucial to healthy social and emotional

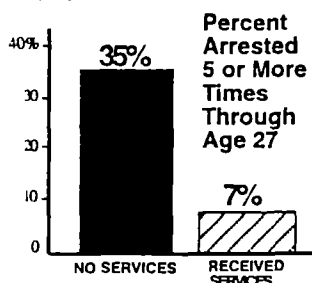
"America's fight against crime must begin in the high chair, not the electric chair. Anything less leaves America's police fighting with one hand tied behind our backs."

— Winston-Salem (NC) Chief of Police George Sweat

Perry Preschool & Home Visit Program's Impact

Decrease in Crime

Preschool and weekly home visits led to an 80% drop in the number of chronic offenders.



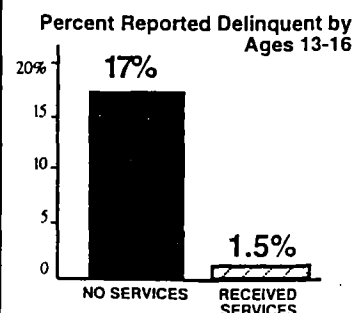
development — and that quality early childhood care can dramatically reduce crime. For example:

- A High/Scope Foundation study at the Perry Preschool in Michigan offered at-risk toddlers a quality Head Start-style preschool program, supplemented by weekly in-home coaching for parents. Twenty-two years later, those who had been denied the services as toddlers were *five times more likely* to be chronic lawbreakers by age 27.

- A similar program in Syracuse, providing child development and health services for at-risk infants and toddlers and parenting support for their mothers and fathers, found that kids denied the services were *ten times more likely* to be delinquent by age 16.

Syracuse Family Development Research Program

Parent-training home visits, early childhood education, health, & other services cut delinquency by 90%.



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS is a national anti-crime organization led by police, prosecutors and crime survivors.

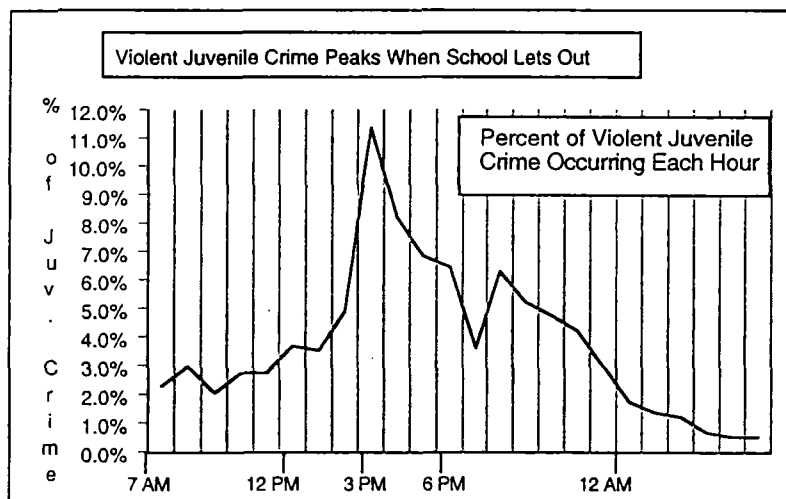
Quality After School Programs: Building Values and Skills to Shut Down "Prime Time for Juvenile Crime"

The peak hours for violent juvenile crime are 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. In the hour after the school bell rings, juvenile crime suddenly *triples* and prime time for juvenile crime begins. Nearly half of all violent juvenile crime occurs between 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and almost *two thirds* occurs in the nine hours between 2:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

"When the peak hours of violent juvenile crime are between the end of school and 8:00 p.m., it's just common sense to provide the after-school programs that give kids the values and skills they need to say 'no' to crime."

— Patrick V. Murphy, former Police Commissioner in New York City, Washington, Detroit and Syracuse

Quality youth development programs can cut crime dramatically — by offering school-age kids a safe haven from negative influences, and providing constructive activities that teach them the values and skills they need to succeed.



- A study of an after-school recreation program in a public housing project compared juvenile arrests with those in another housing project providing only minimal recreational services. The number of juvenile arrests declined by 75 percent in the project served by the after-school program, but increased by 67 percent in the comparison project.

- A Columbia University study of housing projects in which Boys and Girls Clubs had been established as a part of the Justice Department's "Operation Weed and Seed" program showed that arrests of juveniles were

13 percent lower than in projects without a Club. Drug activity was 22 percent lower in projects with a Club.

- A recent study of low-income children attending high-quality after-school programs showed that they spent more time in academically enriching activities and less time watching television, got along better with others, and had better grades and school conduct than other children. Similarly, a recent University of Wisconsin study showed after-school programs had reduced vandalism and helped children become more cooperative, better at handling conflicts, more interested in reading, and better students.

- A Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters' carefully-designed mentoring program showed that young people randomly assigned to receive a trained mentor were only about half as likely to begin illegal drug use or to hit someone as those randomly assigned to the control group.

- Participants randomly assigned to a high school Quantum Opportunities Program of counseling, academic and life skills support, community service and financial incentives, were less than one-quarter as likely to be convicted of a crime during the high-risk high school years as those in a control group. In other words, *the impact on arrests was virtually immediate* — and denying kids these services *quadrupled* the likelihood that they would be convicted of a crime while in high school. Moreover, those who participated in the program were 50 percent more likely to graduate high school on time and two-and-a-half times more likely to attend post-secondary schooling.

Police, Prosecutors and Crime Victims Support Early Childhood and After-School Programs

The people on the front lines of the war on crime overwhelmingly support crime-prevention investments in kids. In a 1996 Northeastern University poll...

"We guarantee criminals taxpayer-provided room and board in a jail cell. Shouldn't we be just as ready to prevent crime by guaranteeing good child care to a toddler and quality after-school programs for older kids?"

— Chicago Police Superintendent Matt Rodriguez, Chair, Major Cities Chiefs Association; Co-Chair, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ILLINOIS

- 92 percent of police chiefs nationwide agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start" by "fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after-school programs and mentoring."

- Nine out of ten chiefs also agreed that "if America doesn't pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare, and other costs."

That's why police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, the parents of murdered children and crime victims — including former U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson, the heads of the nation's leading police officer and police chief organizations, and the president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children — have come together to form FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS, to support public policies that employ all of our most powerful preventive weapons in the war on crime.

Investing in Kids Saves Lives and Money

When America fails to invest in kids, we all pay far more later. For example:

- Economist Steven Barnett found that the High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone. Even after subtracting the interest that could have been earned by investing the program's funding in financial markets, the project produced a net savings of \$7.16 — including more than six dollars in crime savings — for every dollar invested.

"We could be saving thousands of lives — and sparing thousands of families unimaginable heartbreak — by investing up front in the proven early childhood care and youth development programs that can turn kids away from crime."

— Jean Lewis, President, National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children

- Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million taxpayer dollars.

"The bottom line: Ignoring proven prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. If we really want to fight crime, it's time to invest in the early childhood development and after-school programs that help kids get the right start and that keep Americans safe."

— former U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson



(202) 638-0690 • (800) 245-6476

The New York Times

copyright © 1997 The New York Times

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1997

In America

BOB HERBERT

3:00, Nowhere to Go

The peak hours for juvenile crime are 3 P.M. to 8 P.M., with the biggest, most dangerous burst coming in the very first hour after school.

"In the one hour after the school bell rings, juvenile crime triples," said Sanford Newman, a lawyer and president of a national organization called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

The fundamental problem, of course, is a lack of adult supervision. The number of families that leave children unsupervised for part of the day has increased drastically in the past two to three decades. More women are working, more couples are divorcing and more children are being born to single mothers. After being closely supervised all day, millions of youngsters find themselves suddenly on their own at 3 P.M.

A report prepared for Attorney General Janet Reno by Mr. Newman and James Alan Fox, dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University, said: "Experts estimate that between five and seven million 'latchkey children' go home alone after school, and that roughly 35 percent of 12-year-olds are regularly left to fend for themselves while their parents are at work."

A lot of those kids get in trouble. Some will vandalize property, some will do drugs, some will have sex (the hours immediately after school are the peak hours for the conception of teen-age pregnancies), some will join gangs and some will commit violent crimes.

The report to Ms. Reno focused on the crime problem and said a national commitment to well-run after-school programs would be among the most effective ways of responding to it.

"When we send millions of young people out on the streets after school with no responsible supervision or constructive activities, we reap a massive dose of juvenile crime," the report said.

"If, instead, we were to provide students with quality after-school programs, safe havens from negative influences, and constructive recreational, academic enrichment and community service activities, we would dramatically reduce crime while helping students develop the values and skills they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults."

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is a bipartisan crime prevention group. Its membership is composed primarily of high-ranking police officials, prosecutors and victims of crimes.

Youth programs are seen as a critical crime-fighting tool by police departments across the country. A national survey of police chiefs found that 92 percent believed the nation could make much sharper inroads against crime if there was a willingness to invest more in youth development programs and activities.

In an interview last week, Police Chief George Sweat of Winston-Salem, N.C., said: "In our local system

"It just blew us away," he said. "There was no comparison. It was that period after school when we were finding our juvenile suspects and our juvenile victims. Right after school is when most of the kids are still congregated together, they haven't totally dispersed, and that's when you see the influence of the bad kids. You know, 'Let's follow the leader.'"

"The other kids get caught up in it. The fisticuffs. They go the 7-Eleven and shoplift. The statistics will show you that the after-school programs are far more important than a curfew."

Mr. Fox said the need for after-school programs will only grow over the next several years as the nation's teen-age population increases substantially. But he cautioned against seeing such programs simply as a way of fighting crime.

"They will reduce crime," he said, but they are needed for other reasons as well. "It is not a great idea that we have more and more kids who are getting less and less supervision. For their general well-being, we need to get more adults into their lives." □

Peak time for youth crime.

we used to have after-school sports and they cut back on them in the late-80's, and I think that's been one of the problems we've had with crime after school. It's since then that we've felt the brunt of the juvenile crime."

Chief Sweat said Winston-Salem had been considering the possibility of an 11 P.M. to 6 A.M. curfew for young people, but when he looked at the peak hours for juvenile crime he quickly found that the overnight period was not the problem.

The Boston Globe

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Studies prove it: The best way to fight crime is to invest in children

**ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON
and R. GIL KERLIKOWSKE**

All across America, candidates for federal, state and local office are talking about crime. But too few are focusing on our most effective weapons in the battle against crime — the proven investments that help children get the right start in life so they become contributing citizens instead of criminals.

Incarcerating dangerous criminals is a vital defense. But few battles are won with defensive tactics alone. Those of us who have been on the front lines as police, prosecutors and crime survivors know America must fight crime not just from the back but by investing in Head Start and parenting education, "keep up" programs to prevent overburdened schools and vulnerable students from falling behind, after-school, mentoring and job training programs and strategies to address delinquency and help troubled children get back on track.

Do these investments really reduce crime? Absolutely. For example:

- The High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study in Ypsilanti, Mich., showed that when at risk 3- and 4-year-olds were randomly assigned to receive child care similar to a Head Start program, together with a weekly home visit providing coaching for parents, the risk these children would grow up to become chronic lawbreakers was cut by a startling 80 percent.

- The Syracuse University Family Development Study showed that providing quality early-childhood programs to families until children reached age 5 reduces the children's risk of delinquency 10 years later by 90 percent.

- The Quantum Opportunities Program, conducted in Philadelphia, San Antonio, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Saginaw, has shown that a high school program of counseling, academic and life-skills support, community service and other incentives cut the risk of arrest during high school years by 50 percent.

Even when youths begin to get into trouble, we don't have to throw in the towel. The Salt Lake County Juvenile Court, for example, found that when it randomly assigned some delinquent children and their families to participate in family systems counseling, their risk, as well as their siblings' risk, of committing an offense was cut in half.

No wonder that in a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDavitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said, "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in these programs. Police chiefs know their first

criminals and seizing drugs and guns from the street. But when asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in children by a 3-to-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Can we afford to make these investments? Economist Steve Barnett estimates that the High/Scope preschool program saved nearly \$150,000 in crime costs alone per participant. Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million. Yet these investments are so underfunded that they can reach only tiny fractions of those who need them.

That is why we recently joined with many other police leaders, prosecutors and crime survivors in launching the "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign" and in challenging candidates to tell the American people what they will do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime.

Back-end, punishment-only approaches can't undo the agony crime leaves behind. As Marc Klaas explained, after his 12-year-old daughter's murderer was sentenced to death: "That won't bring Polly back. When politicians pretend that punishing criminals after people are hurt is a substitute for preventing crimes, the first people who get sentenced are crime victims and their families — sentenced to shattered lives and broken hearts."

Ignoring prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. To make America safe, we need to be as willing to guarantee our kids space in Head Start or an after-school or job training program as we are to guarantee room and board in a prison cell for a criminal.

We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest time and dollars in our most vulnerable youths before they become our most wanted adults.

It's time Republicans and Democrats joined in a commitment to the investments in children. These programs are our strongest weapons in the fight against crime. Each of us should join Jean Lewis, president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, in taking this pledge: "When I cast my vote, I'll be asking which candidates are ready to fight crime not only from the back end after someone has been hurt, but also from the front end by investing in today's children — because anything else is too little, too late."

Elliot L. Richardson served as US attorney general, secretary of commerce, secretary of defense and secretary of health, education and welfare. Buffalo Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske is president of the Police Executive Research Forum.

LETTERS

Child care important beyond family, business; it's also public safety issue

USA TODAY's editorial on child care makes some important points but ultimately misses the mark ("Parents need quality care, want choices for children," Our View, Debate, Oct. 17).

Child care is more than a parents' issue or a business issue. It is a crucial public safety issue. Quality early-childhood and after-school programs are among our most powerful weapons in the war on crime.

Study after study shows that quality early-childhood care and after-school programs dramatically reduce crime and that failing to provide these services, especially to our most vulnerable children, can multiply the risk that they will become juvenile delinquents or adult criminals.

Yet early-childhood programs like Head Start and Early Head Start get so little funding that they can serve only a small fraction of the at-risk kids who need them. Millions of poor working families cannot afford the care that can give their kids the right start, help them succeed later, and turn them away from crime. In the end, it is all of us who pay the price — in higher crime costs, in lives and in fear.

In the hour after the school dismissal bell turns millions of kids out on the streets without constructive activities or adult supervision, violent juvenile crime suddenly triples. By dinner time, nearly half of each school day's violent juvenile crimes have been committed.

That's why dozens of us on the front lines of the war on crime — including police, prosecutors and victims — have formed Fight Crime: Invest in Kids (www.fightcrime.org) to tell our neighbors and leaders that when America doesn't invest in kids, we're forced to fight crime with one hand tied behind our backs.

Everyone knows that the delivery of child care must take place not in our capitals but in our communities, through partnerships of schools, parents, businesses and community groups.

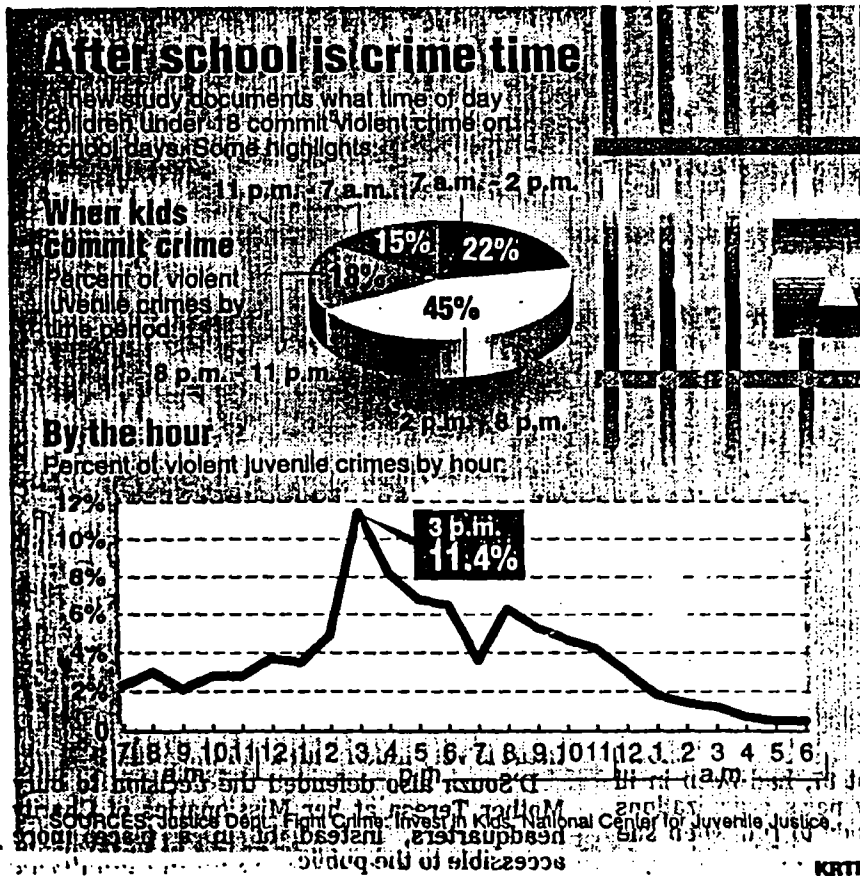
But there is no government responsibility more fundamental than protecting public safety. That means standing in the gap, doing what it takes to see that every kid gets the right start. State and federal governments can't meet that obligation without committing to major new initiatives and investing public funds in the early-childhood and after-school programs that are among our most powerful crime-prevention weapons.

John J. Millner, chief of police
Ebmawrest, Ill.



This article ran in the Albany Times Union, Anchorage News and other Hearst newspapers around the country.

After-school peak time for youth crime



Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — After-school hours are the peak time for juvenile crime, according to a study released yesterday by an advocacy group that blamed such crime on a lack of adult supervision and constructive activities for youngsters.

"It is far better to prevent another crime from occurring than to punish the criminal after another victim is harmed," said Attorney General Janet Reno, who received the report from the group, *Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*.

Reno added that the report "reinforces my commitment to excellent, effective after-school programs."

The report, based on FBI statistics from eight states, said half of violent juvenile crime on school days occurs between 2 and 9 p.m. and 11.4 percent of it takes place in just one hour — between 3 and 4 p.m.

Reno said government funding directed specifically at after-school programs can prevent crime as well as help children improve academically. "We have seen crime prevention programs work," she said at a treatment center for at-risk students in Rockville, Md., where she received the report.

Fight Crime's president, Sanford Newman, pointed to data showing that students in after-school programs had significantly lower conviction rates than those not in such programs.

By replacing unsupervised hours spent exposed to dangerous influences on a street corner with hours spent under (adult) supervision, after-school programs might be expected to elim-

inate all or most of the crimes participating youngsters might otherwise commit during those hours," the report said.

James Alan Fox, dean of Northeastern University's College of Criminal Justice in Boston and a co-author of the report, said the peak crime period occurs because youngsters have been "pent up in a school room all day, and (for them) it's a time to let go."

President Clinton's fiscal 1998 budget, now before Congress, proposed \$63 million for after-school programs, but the House Appropriations Committee has cut the amount to \$50 million and the Senate Appropriations Committee dropped it entirely.

Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., chairman of the Senate's youth crime subcommittee, told the Associated Press that extra funding for such programs would not guarantee reduced crime. "The federal government already spends over \$4 billion a year on at-risk programs," he said, asking, "Do all of these programs reduce juvenile crime?"

The report looked at FBI data for violent juvenile crime, committed hour by hour, in Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, North Dakota, South Carolina and Utah.

The study also included a report by the University of California at Irvine showing that juvenile gang crime in Orange County peaks between 3 and 4 p.m.

Fight Crime, a nonprofit group founded last year, consists of police chiefs, prosecutors and crime survivors across the country.

BOSTON HERALD



BOSTON HERALD
BOSTON, MA
DAILY 317.361

MONDAY
NOV 4 1996

BURRELLE'S

WILLIAM BRATTON and SANFORD NEWMAN

Fighting crime before it starts

Police, prosecutors and crime survivors from across America recently issued an unusual challenge to federal, state and local candidates. Tell the American people, we urged, what you will do to increase the investments in kids that have been proven to dramatically reduce crime — like Head Start, good schools, after-school programs, parenting education, counseling for at-risk kids and child abuse prevention.

Have we suddenly gone soft on crime? Hardly. We know there is no substitute for locking up dangerous criminals, and that efficient policing matters. Between 1994 and 1996, tough, smart policing played a key role in cutting New York City's violent crime rate by 36 percent. But policy-makers should not draw the wrong lesson from that experience. Prevention of crime is the ultimate goal — not just officially responding to it.

Those of us who have been on the front lines know that, in the long run, winning the war on crime also will require cutting the enemy's key supply line: its ability to turn kids into criminals. Each day gangs and drug dealers assiduously recruit our children for their army. To fight back, we must utilize other powerful crime fighting weapons — the proven "right-start" programs and strategies that give kids the armor of values, skills, and positive experiences to

ward off crime and violence.

The good news is that America's crime-fighting arsenal includes enormously powerful "right-start" programs. The bad news: We're fighting crime with one hand tied behind our backs because these programs, like so many prevention-oriented initiatives, are so starved for funding that they reach only a tiny fraction of the children who need them. That's why so many police, prosecutors and crime survivors have joined together to launch a **Fight Crime: Invest In Kids** offensive. Our message is simple: If we want a two-fisted attack on crime, we need to give kids a helping hand.

When the High/Scope Foundation's research tells us that kids denied its early childhood program were five times as likely to become multiple offenders, and Syracuse University's research tell us those denied its services were 10 times as likely to engage in delinquency, it's common sense to provide early childhood programs.

When the peak hours for juvenile crime are between school dismissal and 6 p.m., and when studies of programs like Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring shows they cut by 30-50 percent the risk of kids using drugs or engaging in violence, it's common sense to provide after-school, weekend and summer tutoring, mentoring and recreation.

When being abused as a child nearly doubles the chances of growing up to be a violent criminal, it's common sense to protect abused children and to provide the parenting-coaching programs that have been shown to cut child abuse by 50-80 percent.

Few of those who wind up in our prisons were born to become criminals. Their behavior is learned behavior. Offering kids the experience and mentoring they need to become good citizens is just common sense — and self-defense. Indeed, it is a basic tenet of the community policing philosophy that we have embraced in New York City.

That's why, in a recent survey conducted by Northeastern University criminologist Jack McDewitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in programs for kids.

Skimping on investments in kids is penny-wise and pound-foolish.

William Bratton was New York City police commissioner from January 1994 to April 1996. Boston police commissioner in 1993 and is currently vice chairman of First Security Services Corporation.

Sanford Newman is an attorney who has been a victim of crime and is president of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

JUVENILE CRIME

Prevention works better than detention



**ELLEN
HALBERT**

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that would spend \$1.5 billion pretending to be tough on juvenile crime — and rejected the most powerful weapons in our anti-crime arsenal, the only weapons that can prevent crime before it claims its victims.

Eleven years ago, I was attacked by an intruder in my home. I was raped and stabbed in the chest and neck; my skull was fractured by one hammer blow after another, and a knife was hammered into my head. Like other crime survivors across the country, I have paid too big a price to be silent when our leaders pretend that building more prisons is a substitute for prevention.

Brutal criminals like the one who attacked me need to be locked up. But more prisons and police can't undo the agony I went through. When you look at what works to prevent crime, you learn that our first line of defense is to invest in programs for infants, coaching for at-risk parents, Head Start for toddlers, school enrichment and after-school programs as kids get older and, finally, children's health care to prevent or treat learning impairments and mental health problems before people get hurt.

Wishful thinking? Hardly. Programs like those have proved time and again that the best way to reduce crime is to help kids get the right start in life. For example:

- In studies in Ypsilanti, Mich., and Syracuse, N.Y., at-risk toddlers who were denied quality early childhood programs like Head Start were 10 times as likely to be delinquent as teenagers and five times as likely to be chronic offenders as adults.
- The Quantum Opportunities Program of counseling, academic support, community service and financial incentives cut at-risk high schoolers' chances of being arrested in half.
- Kids without access to quality mentoring programs like Big Brothers/Big Sisters were two to three times as likely to start using drugs by age 16, according to a Public/Private Ventures study.
- Being abused or neglected doubles the likelihood

that a child will become a chronic offender as an adult. The good news: Other studies show that voluntary, in-home parenting coaching for at-risk parents who want help can cut kids' risk of abuse and neglect by up to 80 percent.

Even when kids have started to get in trouble, it isn't too late. Studies in Utah and South Carolina show that family-based counseling and other services can cut young offenders' chances of recidivism in half — and cut in half the chances that their younger siblings will become delinquent.

The House's juvenile crime bill not only forbids spending on effective programs like those but also would spread the crime epidemic by putting more juvenile offenders — including pre-teen runaways and truants who may be victims of neglect — in adult facilities where they can quickly learn the "values" and skills of far more serious criminals.

If you don't believe the studies, ask those on the front line: war on crime. In a poll by Northeastern University criminologist Jack McDewitt, police chiefs nationwide picked increasing investments in kids as the "most effective" crime prevention policy nearly 4 to 1 over "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

What's more, investments in programs for kids will save taxpayers millions of dollars. The Michigan study cited above showed that its program of quality pre-school and parental coaching saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone — plus additional savings on reduced social services, welfare and other costs. Vanderbilt University economist Mark Cohen estimates that every at-risk child we turn away from a life of crime saves taxpayers at least \$1.5 million. So the real question is: "Can we afford to squander billions of tax dollars by forgoing investments that save money, lives and incalculable suffering?"

What would it be worth to you to feel safe again?

What happened to me didn't have to happen. The teenager who so viciously attacked me wasn't born to rape and murder. There were dozens of places along the way where we as a nation should have stepped in to get him on a track to being a contributing citizen. That is why I have joined with scores of crime survivors, police and prosecutors from across the nation to launch the Fight Crime: Invest in Kids campaign. Together, we are calling on politicians to skip the sound bites and boost the investments in children that are our most powerful weapons against crime.

No punishment can undo a crime. The Senate still has the chance to turn the House's folly into good policy by investing now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start. Anything less will be too little, too late for too many Americans.

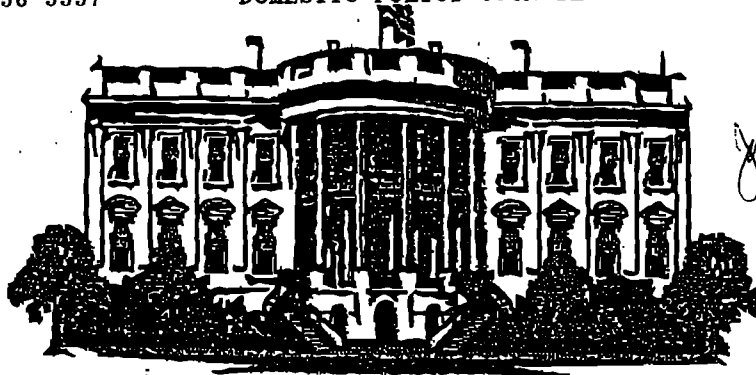
Ellen Halbert of Austin was vice chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice and is a founding advisory board member of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

Dallas, TX
MORNING NEWS

Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington
Met Area

Sunday

SUN 809,652



*for
call these
guys
- news*

THE WHITE HOUSE

Domestic Policy Council

DATE: 2-8-98

FACSIMILE FOR: Neera Tander

FAX: 66244

PHONE: 66275

FACSIMILE FROM: Lianne Shimabukuro

FAX:

PHONE:

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 2

COMMENTS: Partial list of speakers in

support of child care/after school programs

02/08/98 THU 11:08 FAX 202 514 2504

JUSTICE INTERGOVERNMENTAL

003

Crime, Media Advisory 2/3/98

<http://www.fightcrime.org/pressrel.htm>

Thursday, February 5, 1:00 p.m.
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

SPEAKERS:

Terrance Sheridan, Chief of Police, Baltimore County, Maryland.

Edward A. Flynn, Chief of Police, Arlington, Virginia.

John S. Farrell, Chief of Police, Prince George's County, Maryland.

Ellen Halbert, who was raped, beaten and stabbed by an intruder in her home.

Ms. Halbert, of Austin, survived to become the first crime victim appointed to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice.

James Alan Fox, Ph.D., Dean, School of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University.

Sanford A. Newman, President, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS.

→ 180 issued
call together

- new, comp. report
on crime prevention
results

- Op Eds

- Committees in
target states

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

POLICE

Philip Arreola
Chief, Tacoma, WA
Sherman Block
Sheriff, LA County, CA
William Bratton
Fmr. Commiss'r., NYC
Sam A. Cabral
President, Int'l Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO
Dean M. Esserman
Chief, Metro North, NY
Thomas C. Frazier
Police Commissioner,
Baltimore, MD
Gilbert G. Gallegos
President, Fraternal
Order of Police
E. Douglas Hamilton
Chief, Louisville, KY
Phil E. Keith
Chief, Knoxville, TN
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo, NY
Charles A. Moose
Chief, Portland, OR
Patrick V. Murphy
Former Commiss'r, NYC,
DC, Detroit, Syracuse
Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief, Charlotte, NC
Reuban B. Ortega
Chief, Salt Lake City, UT
Matt L. Rodriguez
Fmr. Police Sup't, Chicago, IL
Joseph Samuels
Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrell Sanders
Chief, Frankfurt, IL
Darrel W. Stephens
Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Jack O'Malley
Fmr. State's Atty., Cook Co., IL
Elliot L. Richardson
Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Jim Ryan
Attorney General, IL
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Fdr., Mothers of All Children
Ellen Halbert
Editor, National Crime
Victims Report
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
Marc Klaas
Fdr., Klaas Fdn. for Children
Dennis Lees, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Bartlett

December 23, 1997

Mr. Bruce Reed
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Reed:

I have enclosed a copy of a letter from former Attorney General Elliot Richardson, Buffalo Police Commissioner and Police Executive Research Forum President Gil Kerlikowske and myself requesting meetings with the President and First Lady and appropriate staff.

It is now clear that quality after-school programs and quality child care for infants, toddlers and preschool children can dramatically reduce crime.

More than 100 police chiefs, prosecutors, and crime victims have already signed a call for to assure that all children have access to quality child development and after-school programs, and we will soon recruit hundreds more to join in an intensive public awareness and opinion leader campaign. We would hope our campaign could be in support of a White House proposal.

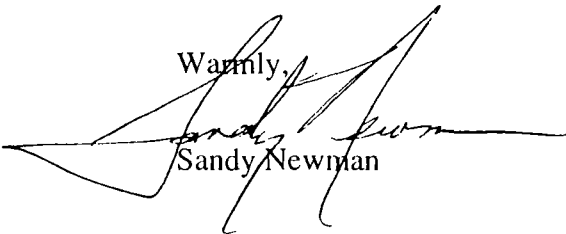
The enclosed letter outlines our views as to the scale of commitment required, and our concern that tax credits, while perhaps of value as part of a balanced plan, do little to reach the low-income families whose lack of access to early childhood and school-age care most threatens the public safety.

It is critical that the Administration's proposal be of sufficient scale and vision to lead not simply to modest additional subsidies for the middle class, but to major strides in eliminating our crime prevention/child investment deficit for those youngsters most at risk.

We would welcome a chance to assist you in helping the public understand that quality child care is one of our most powerful weapons against crime.

Perhaps we could talk early in January about what additional steps we should take?

Warmly,


Sandy Newman

Enclosure:

Letter to the President and First Lady with attachments

**NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

POLICE

Philip Arreola
Chief, Tacoma, WA
Sherman Block
Sheriff, LA County, CA
William Bratton
Fmr. Commissioner, NYC
Sam A. Cabral
President, Intl Union of
Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO
Dean M. Esserman
Chief, Metro North, NY
Thomas C. Frazier
Police Commissioner,
Baltimore, MD
Gilbert G. Gallegos
President, Fraternal
Order of Police
E. Douglas Hamilton
Chief, Louisville, KY
Phil E. Keith
Chief, Knoxville, TN
R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo, NY
Charles A. Moose
Chief, Portland, OR
Patrick V. Murphy
Former Commissioner, NYC
DC, Detroit, Syracuse
Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief, Charlotte, NC
Reuban B. Ortega
Chief, Salt Lake City, UT
Matt L. Rodriguez
Fmr. Police Supt. Chicago, IL
Joseph Samuels
Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrell Sanders
Chief, Frankfort, IL
Darrel W. Stephens
Fmr. Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Former Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Jack O'Malley
Fmr. States Atty., Cook Co., IL
Elliot L. Richardson
Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Jim Ryan
Attorney General, IL
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Edr., Mothers of All Children
Ellen Halbert
Editor, National Crime
Victims Report
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents Initiative
Marc Klaas
Edr., Klaas Fdn. for Children
Dennis Lees, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

January 5, 1997

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20520

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton:

As an organization of police, prosecutors and crime victims, we know that our most powerful weapons against crime are the investments that help children get the right start, helping them develop the values and skills they need to become caring, responsible, contributing adults. It is now clear not only that quality after-school programs can dramatically and immediately reduce crime, but also that quality child care for infants, toddlers and preschool children can have an equally dramatic impact in reducing crime over the longer term.

We therefore applaud the contribution you have made by convening the White House conferences on early childhood development and child care, and the commitment you have made to submit a major child care initiative to Congress early in 1998.

We want you to know that, if your initiative is of sufficient scale and vision and adequately addresses the early childhood and after-school needs of America's low-income children, we will make support of that initiative our top priority in 1998, and will recruit hundreds of police chiefs, prosecutors, rank-and-file police officers and crime victims to join in an intensive campaign in behalf of the initiative. Indeed, such a proposal would be as much a Crime Prevention Initiative as a Child Care Initiative.

Already, more than 100 police chiefs, prosecutors and crime victims have joined our national and state advisory committees and endorsed a call (which we will publicly release in January) to assure that all infants, toddlers, and pre-school children have access to quality child care at a price their families can afford, and that all school-age youngsters have access to after-school programs.

We write to request an opportunity to meet with you and Mrs. Clinton and appropriate staff. In the meantime, we want to urge:

- a) that your child care initiative and budget assure as their top priority that the children of low-income families — those who are otherwise at greatest risk both of being victimized by crime and of becoming involved in criminal activity — have access to quality early childhood care and education and youth development programs in the after-school hours; and

President
Sanford A. Newmar

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Bartlett

- b) that you lay out a long-term plan to eliminate in the area of child care and after-school programs our *crime prevention deficit* — the gaping shortfall in our investment in helping kids get the right start.

We believe it is critical that as a first step your budget propose funding with *increases in mandatory spending* over the next five years of:

- at least \$10 billion for Head Start, so that the program can expand to serve more eligible children, can provide full-day and year-round care for more of the eligible children who need it, and can maintain and further strengthen its quality;
- at least \$5 billion for Early Head Start for children under three; and
- at least \$20 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant to increase the accessibility and quality of child care for children from families making less than 85% of median income, with at least \$5 billion for after-school programs for school-aged youth.

In addition, we urge that at least the federal share of any tobacco settlement revenues be earmarked to meet the developmental needs of children and youth.

We don't need to tell you, Mr. President, that it is the children and youth of America's lowest-income families who are at greatest risk of becoming involved in criminal activity if we fail to provide the parenting education, child care and development and the youth development programs that help them get the right start and provide safe havens and constructive activities in the hours when school is not in session. These are also the children who benefit most from these investments, and for whom society receives the greatest payoff in crime reduction and in other benefits for every dollar it invests.

While tax credits for working families may be a useful part of a balanced strategy, they are simply not likely to be effective in making child care available for families making less than 200% of poverty level, or about 85% of median income. A proposal which fails to assure that those youngsters get the right start would miss the most critical public safety need in the child care and youth development area, throwing away an anti-crime weapon we cannot afford to discard.

The evidence of the remarkable crime-prevention impact of quality early childhood programs is overwhelming. For example:

- A High/Scope Educational Research Foundation study in Michigan randomly admitted half the at-risk three- and four-year-old applicants to its quality pre-school center, and provided their parents with in-home coaching on parenting skills. Twenty-two years later, those who had received these services as toddlers were *just one-fifth as likely* to be chronic law-breakers as kids denied the services.
- In a similar study in Syracuse, at-risk kids who were provided preschool and other services were *only one-tenth as likely* as kids denied those services to be delinquent by age 16.

Programs for school-age youth also have a dramatic and *immediate* anti-crime effect:

- Denying at-risk high school kids participation in a "Quantum Opportunities Program" of counseling, academic and life-skills support and other incentives *quadrupled their risk of being convicted of a crime* while in high school. Providing

these supports doubled students' chances of graduating and made them more likely to go on to post-secondary schooling.

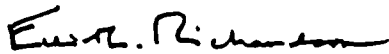
- A new FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS study of FBI data compiled by the National Center for Juvenile Justice tells us that the peak hours of violent juvenile crime are the hours right after school. In fact, in the hour after the school bell rings, starting millions of kids on an unsupervised afternoon without productive outlets for their energy, violent juvenile crime suddenly *triples*. By the time kids go home for dinner, nearly half the day's violent juvenile crimes have been committed. Quality after-school programs could cut juvenile crime dramatically.

The people on the front lines of the war on crime overwhelmingly support these investments. In a Northeastern University poll, *ninety-two percent of police chiefs* nation-wide agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs [like] fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after school programs and mentoring." Nine out of ten chiefs also agreed that "*if America does not pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs.*"

The question is not whether we can afford these programs — it's whether we can afford to saddle future generations with the cost of not making these proven investments today. In fact, investments like these actually *save* billions of tax dollars. The High/Scope preschool study prevented nearly \$150,000 in crime costs *for each child* who participated. Vanderbilt University economist Mark Cohen estimates that every kid we turn away from crime saves \$1.5 million in taxpayer dollars. Indeed, it is hard to imagine any other investment we can make which will so *substantially reduce budgetary demands on the federal government* in the years to come — while beginning to save thousands of innocent lives almost immediately.

Your commitment to assuring that all American children — especially the most at-risk — have access to quality child care and after-school programs would not only help America's children and youth make the most of their lives, but will also dramatically reduce crime and violence and restore public safety.

Sincerely,



Elliot L. Richardson
former United States
Attorney General
National Advisory
Committee Member



Sanford A. Newman
President



R. Gil Kerlikowske
Commissioner, Buffalo
Police Department
National Advisory
Committee Member

Enclosures

Crime-Prevention Fact Sheet
Selected Press Clips

cc: Paul Begala
Rahm Emanuel
Anne Lewis
Bruce Reed
Gene Sperling
Karen Tramontano



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Media Director
John W. Bartlett

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ARE OUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME

We must spare no effort in making sure that dangerous criminals are behind bars. But that strategy by itself will never be enough to win the war against crime. Criminologists, child development experts, police, prosecutors and crime survivors all report the same conclusion: Our most powerful anti-crime weapons are investments in programs to help children and youth get the right start — early childhood programs like Head Start for toddlers and Early Head Start for infants, and youth development programs for the hours when school is not in session.

"We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable children, instead of waiting until they become America's Most Wanted' adults."

— Buffalo (NY) Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske,
President, Police Executive Research Forum

Programs like these can help all children develop the skills and values they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults. When we fail to invest in these powerful "right start" anti-crime weapons, we all pay an enormous price.

Quality Child Development Programs: Proven to Cut Crime Dramatically

Powerful evidence from studies nationwide show that the first years of life are crucial to healthy social and emotional

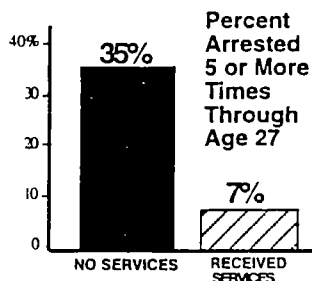
"America's fight against crime must begin in the high chair, not the electric chair. Anything less leaves America's police fighting with one hand tied behind our backs."

— Winston-Salem (NC) Chief of Police George Sweat

Perry Preschool & Home Visit Program's Impact

Decrease in Crime

Preschool and weekly home visits led to an 80% drop in the number of chronic offenders.



development — and that quality early childhood care can dramatically reduce crime. For example:

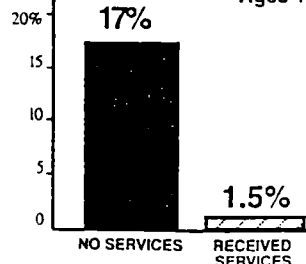
- A High/Scope Foundation study at the Perry Preschool in Michigan offered at-risk toddlers a quality Head Start-style preschool program, supplemented by weekly in-home coaching for parents. Twenty-two years later, those who had been denied the services as toddlers were *five times more likely* to be chronic lawbreakers by age 27.

- A similar program in Syracuse, providing child development and health services for at-risk infants and toddlers and parenting support for their mothers and fathers, found that kids denied the services were *ten times more likely* to be delinquent by age 16.

Syracuse Family Development Research Program

Parent-training home visits, early childhood education, health, & other services cut delinquency by 90%.

Percent Reported Delinquent by Ages 13-16



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS is a national anti-crime organization led by police, prosecutors and crime survivors.

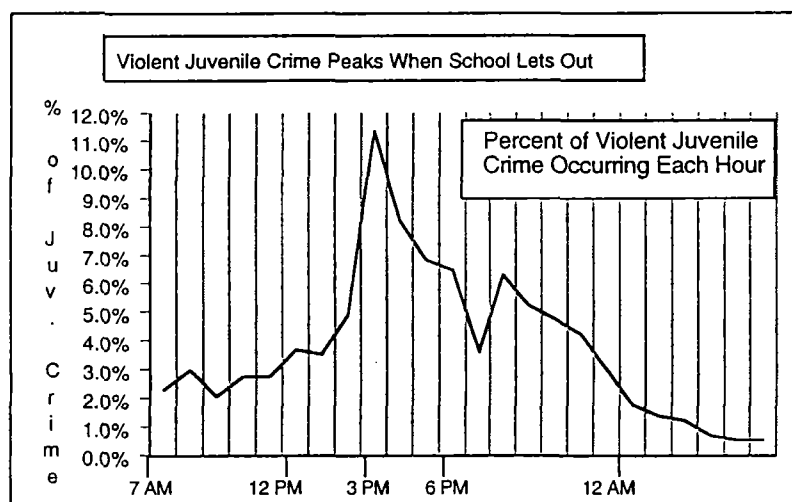
Quality After School Programs: Building Values and Skills to Shut Down "Prime Time for Juvenile Crime"

The peak hours for violent juvenile crime are 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. In the hour after the school bell rings, juvenile crime suddenly *triples* and prime time for juvenile crime begins. Nearly half of all violent juvenile crime occurs between 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and almost *two thirds* occurs in the nine hours between 2:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

"When the peak hours of violent juvenile crime are between the end of school and 8:00 p.m., it's just common sense to provide the after-school programs that give kids the values and skills they need to say 'no' to crime."

— Patrick V. Murphy, former Police Commissioner in New York City, Washington, Detroit and Syracuse

Quality youth development programs can cut crime dramatically — by offering school-age kids a safe haven from negative influences, and providing constructive activities that teach them the values and skills they need to succeed.



- A study of an after-school recreation program in a public housing project compared juvenile arrests with those in another housing project providing only minimal recreational services. The number of juvenile arrests declined by 75 percent in the project served by the after-school program, but increased by 67 percent in the comparison project.

- A Columbia University study of housing projects in which Boys and Girls Clubs had been established as a part of the Justice Department's "Operation Weed and Seed" program showed that arrests of juveniles were

13 percent lower than in projects without a Club. Drug activity was 22 percent lower in projects with a Club.

- A recent study of low-income children attending high-quality after-school programs showed that they spent more time in academically enriching activities and less time watching television, got along better with others, and had better grades and school conduct than other children. Similarly, a recent University of Wisconsin study showed after-school programs had reduced vandalism and helped children become more cooperative, better at handling conflicts, more interested in reading, and better students.

- A Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters' carefully-designed mentoring program showed that young people randomly assigned to receive a trained mentor were only about half as likely to begin illegal drug use or to hit someone as those randomly assigned to the control group.

- Participants randomly assigned to a high school Quantum Opportunities Program of counseling, academic and life skills support, community service and financial incentives, were less than one-quarter as likely to be convicted of a crime during the high-risk high school years as those in a control group. In other words, *the impact on arrests was virtually immediate* — and denying kids these services *quadrupled* the likelihood that they would be convicted of a crime while in high school. Moreover, those who participated in the program were 50 percent more likely to graduate high school on time and two-and-a-half times more likely to attend post-secondary schooling.

Police, Prosecutors and Crime Victims Support Early Childhood and After-School Programs

The people on the front lines of the war on crime overwhelmingly support crime-prevention investments in kids. In a 1996 Northeastern University poll...

"We guarantee criminals taxpayer-provided room and board in a jail cell. Shouldn't we be just as ready to prevent crime by guaranteeing good child care to a toddler and quality after-school programs for older kids?"

— Chicago Police Superintendent Matt Rodriguez, Chair, Major Cities Chiefs Association; Co-Chair, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ILLINOIS

- 92 percent of police chiefs nationwide agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start" by "fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after-school programs and mentoring."

- Nine out of ten chiefs also agreed that "if America doesn't pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare, and other costs."

That's why police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, the parents of murdered children and crime victims — including former U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson, the heads of the nation's leading police officer and police chief organizations, and the president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children — have come together to form FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS, to support public policies that employ all of our most powerful preventive weapons in the war on crime.

Investing in Kids Saves Lives and Money

When America fails to invest in kids, we all pay far more later. For example:

- Economist Steven Barnett found that the High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone. Even after subtracting the interest that could have been earned by investing the program's funding in financial markets, the project produced a net savings of \$7.16 — including more than six dollars in crime savings — for every dollar invested.

"We could be saving thousands of lives — and sparing thousands of families unimaginable heartbreak — by investing up front in the proven early childhood care and youth development programs that can turn kids away from crime."

— Jean Lewis, President, National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children

- Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million taxpayer dollars.

"The bottom line: Ignoring proven prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. If we really want to fight crime, it's time to invest in the early childhood development and after-school programs that help kids get the right start and that keep Americans safe."

— former U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson

FIGHT
CRIME



INVEST
IN KIDS

(202) 638-0690 • (800) 245-6476

The New York Times

copyright © 1997 The New York Times

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1997

In America

BOB HERBERT

3:00, Nowhere to Go

The peak hours for juvenile crime are 3 P.M. to 8 P.M., with the biggest, most dangerous burst coming in the very first hour after school.

"In the one hour after the school bell rings, juvenile crime triples," said Sanford Newman, a lawyer and president of a national organization called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

The fundamental problem, of course, is a lack of adult supervision. The number of families that leave children unsupervised for part of the day has increased drastically in the past two to three decades. More women are working, more couples are divorcing and more children are being born to single mothers. After being closely supervised all day, millions of youngsters find themselves suddenly on their own at 3 P.M.

A report prepared for Attorney General Janet Reno by Mr. Newman and James Alan Fox, dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University, said: "Experts estimate that between five and seven million 'latchkey children' go home alone after school, and that roughly 35 percent of 12-year-olds are regularly left to fend for themselves while their parents are at work."

A lot of those kids get in trouble. Some will vandalize property, some will do drugs, some will have sex (the hours immediately after school are the peak hours for the conception of teen-age pregnancies), some will join gangs and some will commit violent crimes.

The report to Ms. Reno focused on the crime problem and said a national commitment to well-run after-school programs would be among the most effective ways of responding to it.

"When we send millions of young people out on the streets after school with no responsible supervision or constructive activities, we reap a massive dose of juvenile crime," the report said.

"If, instead, we were to provide students with quality after-school programs, safe havens from negative influences, and constructive recreational, academic enrichment and community service activities, we would dramatically reduce crime while helping students develop the values and skills they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults."

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is a bipartisan crime prevention group. Its membership is composed primarily of high-ranking police officials, prosecutors and victims of crimes.

Youth programs are seen as a critical crime-fighting tool by police departments across the country. A national survey of police chiefs found that 92 percent believed the nation could make much sharper inroads against crime if there was a willingness to invest more in youth development programs and activities.

In an interview last week, Police Chief George Sweat of Winston-Salem, N.C., said: "In our local system

"It just blew us away," he said. "There was no competition. It was that period after school when we were finding our juvenile suspects and our juvenile victims. Right after school is when most of the kids are still congregated together, they haven't totally dispersed, and that's when you see the influence of the bad kids. You know, 'Let's follow the leader.'"

"The other kids get caught up in it. The fisticuffs. They go the 7-Eleven and shoplift. The statistics will show you that the after-school programs are far more important than a curfew."

Mr. Fox said the need for after-school programs will only grow over the next several years as the nation's teen-age population increases substantially. But he cautioned against seeing such programs simply as a way of fighting crime.

"They will reduce crime," he said, but they are needed for other reasons as well. "It is not a great idea that we have more and more kids who are getting less and less supervision. For their general well-being, we need to get more adults into their lives." □

Peak time for youth crime.

we used to have after-school sports and they cut back on them in the late-80's, and I think that's been one of the problems we've had with crime after school. It's since then that we've felt the brunt of the juvenile crime."

Chief Sweat said Winston-Salem had been considering the possibility of an 11 P.M. to 6 A.M. curfew for young people, but when he looked at the peak hours for juvenile crime he quickly found that the overnight period was not the problem.

The Boston Globe

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Studies prove it: The best way to fight crime is to invest in children

**ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON
and R. GIL KERLIKOWSKE**

All across America, candidates for federal, state and local office are talking about crime. But too few are focusing on our most effective weapons in the battle against crime — the proven investments that help children get the right start in life so they become contributing citizens instead of criminals.

Incarcerating dangerous criminals is a vital defense. But few battles are won with defensive tactics alone. Those of us who have been on the front lines as police, prosecutors and crime survivors know America must fight crime not just from the back but by investing in Head Start and parenting education, "keep up" programs to prevent overburdened schools and vulnerable students from falling behind, after-school, mentoring and job training programs and strategies to address delinquency and help troubled children get back on track.

Do these investments really reduce crime? Absolutely. For example:

- The High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study in Ypsilanti, Mich., showed that when at risk 3- and 4-year-olds were randomly assigned to receive child care similar to a Head Start program, together with a weekly home visit providing coaching for parents, the risk these children would grow up to become chronic lawbreakers was cut by a startling 80 percent.

- The Syracuse University Family Development Study showed that providing quality early-childhood programs to families until children reached age 5 reduces the children's risk of delinquency 10 years later by 90 percent.

- The Quantum Opportunities Program, conducted in Philadelphia, San Antonio, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Saginaw, has shown that a high school program of counseling, academic and life-skills support, community service and other incentives cut the risk of arrest during high school years by 50 percent.

Even when youths begin to get into trouble, we don't have to throw in the towel. The Salt Lake County Juvenile Court, for example, found that when it randomly assigned some delinquent children and their families to participate in family systems counseling, their risk, as well as their siblings' risk, of committing an offense was cut in half.

No wonder that in a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDavitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said, "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in these programs. Police chiefs know their first

criminals and seizing drugs and guns from the street. But when asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in children by a 3-to-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Can we afford to make these investments? Economist Steve Barnett estimates that the High/Scope preschool program saved nearly \$150,000 in crime costs alone per participant. Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million. Yet these investments are so underfunded that they can reach only tiny fractions of those who need them.

That is why we recently joined with many other police leaders, prosecutors and crime survivors in launching the "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign" and in challenging candidates to tell the American people what they will do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime.

Back-end, punishment-only approaches can't undo the agony crime leaves behind. As Marc Klaas explained, after his 12-year-old daughter's murderer was sentenced to death: "That won't bring Polly back. When politicians pretend that punishing criminals after people are hurt is a substitute for preventing crimes, the first people who get sentenced are crime victims and their families — sentenced to shattered lives and broken hearts."

Ignoring prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. To make America safe, we need to be as willing to guarantee our kids space in Head Start or an after-school or job training program as we are to guarantee room and board in a prison cell for a criminal.

We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest time and dollars in our most vulnerable youths before they become our most wanted adults.

It's time Republicans and Democrats joined in a commitment to the investments in children. These programs are our strongest weapons in the fight against crime. Each of us should join Jean Lewis, president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, in taking this pledge: "When I cast my vote, I'll be asking which candidates are ready to fight crime not only from the back end after someone has been hurt, but also from the front end by investing in today's children — because anything else is to little, too late."

Elliot L. Richardson served as US attorney general, secretary of commerce, secretary of defense and secretary of health, education and welfare. Buffalo Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske is president of the Police Executives' Association.

LETTERS

Child care important beyond family, business; it's also public safety issue

USA TODAY's editorial on child care makes some important points but ultimately misses the mark ("Parents need quality care, want choices for children," Our View, Debate, Oct. 17).

Child care is more than a parents' issue or a business issue. It is a crucial public safety issue. Quality early-childhood and after-school programs are among our most powerful weapons in the war on crime.

Study after study shows that quality early-childhood care and after-school programs dramatically reduce crime and that failing to provide these services, especially to our most vulnerable children, can multiply the risk that they will become juvenile delinquents or adult criminals.

Yet early-childhood programs like Head Start and Early Head Start get so little funding that they can serve only a small fraction of the at-risk kids who need them. Millions of poor working families cannot afford the care that can give their kids the right start, help them succeed later, and turn them away from crime. In the end, it is all of us who pay the price — in higher crime costs, in lives and in fear.

In the hour after the school dismissal bell turns millions of kids out on the streets without constructive activities or adult supervision, violent juvenile crime suddenly triples. By dinner time, nearly half of each school day's violent juvenile crimes have been committed.

That's why dozens of us on the front lines of the war on crime — including police, prosecutors and victims — have formed Fight Crime: Invest in Kids (www.fightcrime.org) to tell our neighbors and leaders that when America doesn't invest in kids, we're forced to fight crime with one hand tied behind our backs.

Everyone knows that the delivery of child care must take place not in our capitals but in our communities, through partnerships of schools, parents, businesses and community groups.

But there is no government responsibility more fundamental than protecting public safety. That means standing in the gap, doing what it takes to see that every kid gets the right start. State and federal governments can't meet that obligation without committing to major new initiatives and investing public funds in the early-childhood and after-school programs that are among our most powerful crime-prevention weapons.

John J. Millner, chief of police

THE NATION'S NEWSPAPER

USA TODAY

NO. 1 IN THE USA... FIRST IN DAILY READERS

This article ran in the Albany Times Union, Anchorage News and other Hearst newspapers around the country.

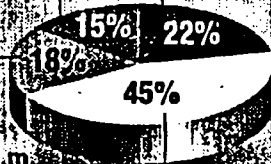
After-school peak time for youth crime

After school is crime time

A new study documents what time of day children under 18 commit violent crime on school days. Some highlights:

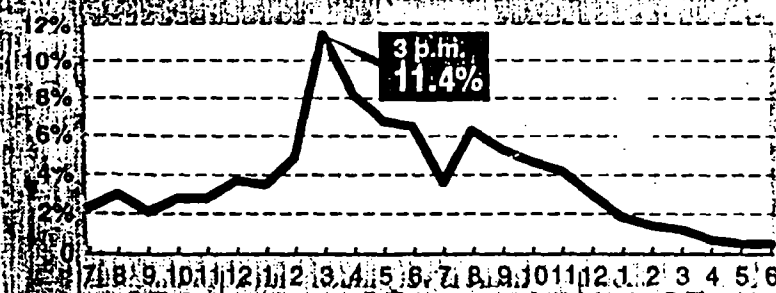
When kids commit crime

Percent of violent juvenile crimes by time period



By the hour

Percent of violent juvenile crimes by hour



Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — After-school hours are the peak time for juvenile crime, according to a study released yesterday by an advocacy group that blamed such crime on a lack of adult supervision and constructive activities for youngsters.

"It is far better to prevent another crime from occurring than to punish the criminal after another victim is harmed," said Attorney General Janet Reno, who received the report from the group, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

Reno added that the report "reinforces my commitment to excellent, effective after-school programs."

The report, based on FBI statistics from eight states, said half of violent juvenile crime on school days occurs between 2 and 9 p.m. and 11.4 percent of it takes place in just one hour — between 3 and 4 p.m.

Reno said government funding directed specifically at after-school programs can prevent crime as well as help children improve academically. "We have seen crime prevention programs work," she said at a treatment center for at-risk students in Rockville, Md., where she received the report.

Fight Crime's president, Sanford Newman, pointed to data showing that students in after-school programs had significantly lower conviction rates than those not in such programs.

By replacing unsupervised hours spent exposed to dangerous influences on a street corner with hours spent under (adult) supervision, after-school programs might be expected to elim-

inate all or most of the crimes participating youngsters might otherwise commit during those hours," the report said.

James Alan Fox, dean of Northeastern University's College of Criminal Justice in Boston and a co-author of the report, said the peak crime period occurs because youngsters have been "pent up in a school room all day, and (for them) it's a time to let go."

President Clinton's fiscal 1998 budget, now before Congress, proposed \$63 million for after-school programs, but the House Appropriations Committee has cut the amount to \$50 million and the Senate Appropriations Committee dropped it entirely.

Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., chairman of the Senate's youth crime subcommittee, told the Associated Press that extra funding for such programs would not guarantee reduced crime. "The federal government already spends over \$4 billion a year on at-risk programs," he said, asking, "Do all of these programs reduce juvenile crime?"

The report looked at FBI data for violent juvenile crime, committed hour by hour, in Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, North Dakota, South Carolina and Utah.

The study also included a report by the University of California at Irvine showing that juvenile gang crime in Orange County peaks between 3 and 4 p.m.

Fight Crime, a nonprofit group founded last year, consists of police chiefs, prosecutors and crime survivors across the country.

KRTN

BOSTON HERALD

BOSTON HERALD
BOSTON, MA
DAILY 317.361

MONDAY
NOV 4 1996

BURRELLE'S

WILLIAM BRATTON and SANFORD NEWMAN

Fighting crime before it starts

288
Police, prosecutors and crime survivors from across America recently issued an unusual challenge to federal, state and local candidates. Tell the American people, we urged, what you will do to increase the investments in kids that have been proven to dramatically reduce crime — like Head Start, good schools, after-school programs, parenting education, counseling for at-risk kids and child abuse prevention.

Have we suddenly gone soft on crime? Hardly. We know there is no substitute for locking up dangerous criminals, and that efficient policing matters. Between 1994 and 1996, tough, smart policing played a key role in cutting New York City's violent crime rate by 36 percent. But policy-makers should not draw the wrong lesson from that experience. Prevention of crime is the ultimate goal — not just officially responding to it.

Those of us who have been on the front lines know that, in the long run, winning the war on crime also will require cutting the enemy's key supply line: its ability to turn kids into criminals. Each day gangs and drug dealers assiduously recruit our children for their army. To fight back, we must utilize other powerful crime fighting weapons — the proven "right-start" programs and strategies that give kids the armor of values, skills, and positive experiences to

ward off crime and violence.

The good news is that America's crime-fighting arsenal includes enormously powerful "right-start" programs. The bad news: We're fighting crime with one hand tied behind our backs because these programs, like so many prevention-oriented initiatives, are so starved for funding that they reach only a tiny fraction of the children who need them. That's why so many police, prosecutors and crime survivors have joined together to launch a Fight Crime: Invest In Kids offensive. Our message is simple: If we want a two-fisted attack on crime, we need to give kids a helping hand.

When the High/Scope Foundation's research tells us that kids denied its early childhood program were five times as likely to become multiple offenders, and Syracuse University's research tell us those denied its services were 10 times as likely to engage in delinquency, it's common sense to provide early childhood programs.

When the peak hours for juvenile crime are between school dismissal and 6 p.m., and when studies of programs like Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring shows they cut by 30-50 percent the risk of kids using drugs or engaging in violence, it's common sense to provide after-school, weekend and summer tutoring, mentoring and recreation.

When being abused as a child nearly doubles the chances of growing up to be a violent criminal, it's common sense to protect abused children and to provide the parenting-coaching programs that have been shown to cut child abuse by 50-80 percent.

Few of those who wind up in our prisons were born to become criminals. Their behavior is learned behavior. Offering kids the experience and mentoring they need to become good citizens is just common sense — and self-defense. Indeed, it is a basic tenet of the community policing philosophy that we have embraced in New York City.

That's why, in a recent survey conducted by Northeastern University criminologist Jack McDewitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in programs for kids.

Skimping on investments in kids is penny-wise and pound-foolish.

William Bratton was New York City police commissioner from January 1994 to April 1996. Boston police commissioner in 1993 and is currently vice chairman of First Security Service Corporation.

Sanford Newman is an attorney who has been a victim of crime and is president of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

JUVENILE CRIME

Prevention works better than detention



**ELLEN
HALBERT**

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that would spend \$1.5 billion pretending to be tough on juvenile crime — and rejected the most powerful weapons in our anti-crime arsenal, the only weapons that can prevent crime before it claims its victims.

Eleven years ago, I was attacked by an intruder in my home. I was raped and stabbed in the chest and neck; my skull was fractured by one hammer blow after another, and a knife was hammered into my head. Like other crime survivors across the country, I have paid too big a price to be silent when our leaders pretend that building more prisons is a substitute for prevention.

Brutal criminals like the one who attacked me need to be locked up. But more prisons and police can't undo the agony I went through. When you look at what works to prevent crime, you learn that our first line of defense is to invest in programs for infants, coaching for at-risk parents, Head Start for toddlers, school enrichment and after-school programs as kids get older and, finally, children's health care to prevent or treat learning impairments and mental health problems before people get hurt.

• Wishful thinking? Hardly. Programs like those have proved time and again that the best way to reduce crime is to help kids get the right start in life. For example:

- In studies in Ypsilanti, Mich., and Syracuse, N.Y., at-risk toddlers who were denied quality early childhood programs like Head Start were 10 times as likely to be delinquent as teenagers and five times as likely to be chronic offenders as adults.

- The Quantum Opportunities Program of counseling, academic support, community service and financial incentives cut at-risk high schoolers' chances of being arrested in half.

- Kids without access to quality mentoring programs like Big Brothers/Big Sisters were two to three times as likely to start using drugs by age 16, according to a Public/Private Ventures study.

- Being abused or neglected doubles the likelihood

that a child will become a chronic offender as an adult. The good news: Other studies show that voluntary, in-home parenting coaching for at-risk parents who want help can cut kids' risk of abuse and neglect by up to 80 percent.

Even when kids have started to get in trouble, it isn't too late. Studies in Utah and South Carolina show that family-based counseling and other services can cut young offenders' chances of recidivism in half — and cut in half the chances that their younger siblings will become delinquent.

The House's juvenile crime bill not only forbids spending on effective programs like those but also would spread the crime epidemic by putting more juvenile offenders — including pre-teen runaways and truants who may be victims of neglect — in adult facilities where they can quickly learn the "values" and skills of far more serious criminals.

If you don't believe the studies, ask those on the front line: war on crime. In a poll by Northeastern University criminologist Jack McDevitt, police chiefs nationwide picked increasing investments in kids as the "most effective" crime prevention policy nearly 4 to 1 over "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

What's more, investments in programs for kids will save taxpayers millions of dollars. The Michigan study cited above showed that its program of quality pre-school and parental coaching saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone — plus additional savings on reduced social services, welfare and other costs. Vanderbilt University economist Mark Cohen estimates that every at-risk child we turn away from a life of crime saves taxpayers at least \$1.5 million. So the real question is: "Can we afford to squander billions of tax dollars by forgoing investments that save money, lives and incalculable suffering?"

What would it be worth to you to feel safe again?

What happened to me didn't have to happen. The teenager who so viciously attacked me wasn't born to rape and murder. There were dozens of places along the way where we as a nation should have stepped in to get him on a track to being a contributing citizen. That is why I have joined with scores of crime survivors, police and prosecutors from across the nation to launch the Fight Crime: Invest in Kids campaign. Together, we are calling on politicians to skip the sound bites and boost the investments in children that are our most powerful weapons against crime.

No punishment can undo a crime. The Senate still has the chance to turn the House's folly into good policy by investing now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start. Anything less will be too little, too late for too many Americans.

Ellen Halbert of Austin was vice chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice and is a founding advisory board member of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

Dallas, TX
MORNING NEWS

Dallas — Fort Worth — Arlington
Met Area

Sunday

SUN 809.552