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President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

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

Facsimile

TO: Bobbi Greene
FROM: John W. Bartlett
DATE: January 16, 1998
PAGES: 7
RE: FIGHT CRIME's support for Clinton child care plan

456-6244

Ms. Greene,

Sandy is out of the office today, but asked me to fax you copies of some of our materials.

As Sandy discussed with you, our first release was less complimentary than it ought to have been. I am enclosing that release, along with an editorial board memo we distributed late last week, and a subsequent press release (from Wednesday's press briefing by the Child Care Action Campaign). These documents reflect the development of our position of strong support for President Clinton's child care initiative.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Enclosures
Press Release 1/7/98
Editorial Board Memorandum 1/9/98
Press Release 1/14/98

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Associate Directors
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Media Director
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Murder Must End Now

COPY FIGHT
CRIMEINVEST
IN KIDSPresident
Sanford A. NewmanAssociate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. FitzsimonsCommunications Director
John W. BartlettFor Immediate Release
Wednesday, January 7, 1998CONTACT: John Bartlett, Sanford Newman
(202) 638-0690, or (800) 245-6476 outside metro D.C.**Law Enforcement Leaders: Clinton Child Care Plan A
First Step, But Greater Investment Needed***Police, Prosecutors, and Crime Victims Say Congress Must Go Farther
to Ensure 'Right Start' and After-School Programs for Kids Most At-Risk*

President Clinton's child care plan is an important first step toward crime prevention, but to really seize this opportunity to make American communities safer will take more investments in early childhood development care for America's most at-risk infants and toddlers, and after-school programs to cut into the "prime time for juvenile crime," a national organization of police chiefs, prosecutors and crime survivors said today.

★ Clinton plan could cut crime sharply by investing more in the kids most at-risk

"The President's funding for child care is a major step forward, but still meets less than half the established need, and virtually ignores after-school programs. The President has shown that these vital investments save tax dollars. They can also dramatically reduce crime. Why not then seek the funding that would get the job done?"

— former U.S. Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson,
for **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

The crime fighters cited studies in which at-risk toddlers denied quality early childhood care were *five times more likely to become chronic law-breakers as adults, and ten times more likely to be delinquent at age 16.*

★ Plan ignores school-age care that could shut down 'Prime Time for Juvenile Crime'

"Violent juvenile crime *triples* in the hour after the school bell rings, and nearly half of violent juvenile crime takes place in the after-school hours. This bill is an important first step, but falls far short of providing after-school programs on the scale needed to respond to the 'prime time for juvenile crime.'"

— Northeastern University criminologist James Alan Fox
for **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

"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. The government can't meet that obligation without going far beyond this proposal's limited initiatives on infant and toddler care and after-school programs."

— Elmhurst (IL) Police Chief John Millner
for FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

"Today, the deficit which most threatens America's families is the *crime prevention deficit* — the gaping shortfall in our investment in the programs proven to prevent crime by helping at-risk kids get the right start."

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

"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 toddlers and quality after-school programs for older kids?"

— Buffalo (NY) Police Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske, president,
Police Executive Research Forum, for FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

Crime Fighters Say Congress should earmark permanent funding for every American community to ensure that:

- all low-income children have access to a Head Start program — and Early Head Start or other quality programs for kids under three — with the resources to offer top quality, full-day, year-round care.
- CCDBG commitments ensure that every working family has access to quality early childhood education and care so their kids can start school ready to succeed.
- all school-age youth have access to quality after-school programs that protect them from violence and help them build skills and values like honesty, responsibility and teamwork.

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS leaders are available for comment by calling (202) 638-0690.

For more information on the anti-crime impact of investments in kids, call FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS or visit <http://www.flightcrime.org/> on the Internet.

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**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

FIGHT CRIME



INVEST IN KIDS

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TO: Editorial Writers
DATE: January 9, 1998
RE: "A New Consensus on Child Care & After-School Programs":
Key Facts and Background for your Editorials on
President Clinton's Child Care Proposal

FROM: John W. Bartlett
PAGES: 5

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Ba 1

Police, Prosecutors, Crime Victims & Scholars Now Agree: Child Care, After School Programs = Key Weapons Against Crime When Government Fails to Assure Access to Quality Child Care, it Breaches Its Most Fundamental Responsibility — Protecting Public Safety

One of the most striking new developments of the past year has been the virtual unanimity among police, prosecutors, crime victims and criminologists — crossing all ideological lines — that investments in quality early childhood development and after-school programs are among our most powerful weapons against crime. For example:

- Nine out of ten police chiefs (92%) nation-wide, in a Northeastern University poll, agreed "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... and providing after-school programs and mentoring" for older kids.
- The police chiefs pick "increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" as the "most effective" anti-crime strategy *nearly 4-to-1* over "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

Studies show dramatic Impact of Early Childhood Care on Crime. For example, two studies compared kids randomly assigned to receive quality early childhood care or to do without it. Results: Denying these services multiplied by *ten times* the risk of later delinquency and by *five times* the risk the kids would become chronic lawbreakers as adults.

After-school hours are "prime time for juvenile crime." FBI data show that violent juvenile crime *triples* in the hour after school lets out; the peak hours are from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. These are also the peak hours for teen experimentation with sex and drugs.

What does this mean for Americans, and for President Clinton's child care initiative? Police, prosecutors, and crime victims are a pretty conservative bunch. Here's what they say:

"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 toddlers and quality after-school programs for older kids?"

— Buffalo (NY) Police Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske, president,
Police Executive Research Forum, for FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

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A project of the Action Against Crime and Violence Education Fund

COPY**FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

page 2 of 2

"A New Consensus on Child Care & After-School Programs"

"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 by teaching them the values and skills to succeed."

**— Jean Lewis, president,
Nat'l Organization of Parents of Murdered Children
for FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

"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. The government can't meet that obligation without committing to major new initiatives and investing public funds in these programs for kids."

**— Elmhurst (IL) Police Chief John Millner,
for FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

"Today, the deficit which most threatens America's families is the *crime prevention deficit* — the gaping shortfall in our investment in the programs proven to prevent crime by helping at-risk kids get the right start."

**— former U.S. Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson,
for FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS**

The Bottom Line from a law enforcement perspective: Clinton's child care proposal is a major step forward which would substantially reduce crime. All members of Congress, regardless of party or ideology, should view his proposal as a minimum floor, and expand on it to provide more funding for after-school programs, Head Start, and quality child care for those children who are otherwise most at risk of getting into trouble.

For more information on the powerful crime-prevention impact of early childhood care and after-school programs, refer to the enclosed 3-page fact sheet. Additional information, and interviews, are available by calling (202) 638-0690, or at <http://www.fightcrime.org/>.

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Communications Direc
John W. Bartlett

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, January 14, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

CONTACT: John W. Bartlett
(202) 638-0690

Police, Prosecutors, Crime Victims: Clinton Child Care Proposal Would Be Powerful Blow Against Crime

Congress Should 'See and Raise' Clinton's Bid

"Passage of President Clinton's proposal on early childhood care and after-school programs would be among the most important and powerful anti-crime steps ever taken by Congress," says Sanford A. Newman, President of **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS** a bi-partisan, national anti-crime organization led by police chiefs, prosecutors and crime survivors.

"If Congress wants to really unleash America's most powerful anti-crime weapons, it should 'see and raise' Clinton's opening bid," Newman said. "We urge Congress to view the President's proposal as a floor; proposals seeking a substantial reduction in crime should certainly not drop below this floor."

"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 toddlers and quality after-school programs for older kids?" remarked **Buffalo (NY) Police Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske**, president of the **Police Executive Research Forum**.

"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 by teaching them the values and skills to succeed," said **Jean Lewis**, president of the **National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children**. Ms. Lewis' son Scott was murdered in 1981.

After-school hours are "prime time for juvenile crime." FBI data show that violent juvenile crime *triples* in the hour after school lets out; the peak hours are between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. These are also the peak hours for teen experimentation with sex and drugs.

"Investments in quality early childhood development and after-school programs for at-risk kids are our most powerful weapons against crime. The first after-school program we started cut neighborhood crime 42 percent the first year," said **Baltimore (MD) Police Commissioner Thomas C. Frazier**. "When the peak hours of crime are from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and when studies show that shutting at-risk kids out of quality early childhood care can multiply by up to ten times their risk of delinquency by their mid-teens, it's just common sense to fight crime by investing in early childhood care and after-school programs."

Studies show dramatic impact of early childhood care on crime. For example, two studies compared kids randomly assigned to receive quality early childhood care or to do without it. The results: Denying these services multiplied by *ten times* the risk of later delinquency and by *five times* the risk the kids would become chronic lawbreakers as adults.

"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

- MORE -

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FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

page 2 of 2

'Police, Prosecutors, Crime Victims: Clinton Child Care Proposal Would Be Powerful Blow Against Crime'

groups," said John Millner, Chief of Police in Elmhurst, Illinois. "But there is no government responsibility more fundamental than protecting public safety. The government can't meet that obligation without committing the funds so every community can ensure that early childhood care and after-school programs reach all the kids that need them."

Emerging Unanimity Among Law Enforcement Leaders. One of the most striking developments of the past year has been the emergence of virtual unanimity among police, prosecutors, crime victims and criminologists — crossing all ideological lines — that investments in quality early childhood development and after-school programs are among our most powerful weapons against crime.

Frazier noted that in a Northeastern University poll of police chiefs nation-wide...

- ... More than nine out of ten police chiefs (92%) agreed "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... and providing after-school programs and mentoring" for older kids.
- ... Police chiefs chose "increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" as the "most effective" anti-crime strategy *nearly 4-to-1* over "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

Can we afford such investments? Early childhood care and after-school programs actually save millions of taxpayer dollars. In one study, early childhood care prevented \$150,000 *per child* in later crime costs. And the human dividends — the lives saved, and the sense of safety we could have again in our communities — are priceless.

"The President's funding for child care is a major step forward, but still meets only a portion of the need. When child care and after-school programs save dollars and cut crime, why shouldn't Congress provide the funding that will enable communities to get the job done?" said former U.S. Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson, one of FIGHT CRIME's founders.

The Bottom Line from a law enforcement perspective: Clinton's child care proposal is a major step forward which would substantially reduce crime. All members of Congress, regardless of party or ideology, should view his proposal as a minimum floor, and expand on it to provide more funding for after-school programs, Head Start, and quality child care for those children who are otherwise most at risk of getting into trouble.

For more information on the powerful crime-prevention impact of early childhood care and after-school programs, call (202) 638-0690, or visit <http://www.fightcrime.org/> on the Internet.

BOBBIE GREENE

Jen/Nicole,

Thought this
would be of
interest.

Nicole -

FYI. Please
return.

— Jen

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**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

- Comparisons of quality v. non-quality?
- What does quality mean?

9/10

Hi, Jennifer

I thought this new report
on after-school programs +
juvenile crime which we
presented at a press conference
with the Attorney General this
A.M. would be of interest.
You'll also be interested, I
think in the materials behind
tabs 2, 6 + 7 of the bound
press kit.

See you next week.

Handwritten signature: Sandy Sherman

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John W. Gardner, Ph.D.
Former US Secretary of Health,
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Consulting Professor, Stanford
Richard Gerber, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor of
Psychiatry, GWU Med. School
Alice S. Honig, Ph.D.
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Study of Social Policy
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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



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Development Director
John W. Bartlett

Police, Prosecutors, and Crime Survivors Fighting for Policies to Prevent Crime and Violence

After-School Programs or After-School Crime
Wednesday, September 10, 1997, 10:00 a.m.

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Police Ass'ns, AFL-CIO

Gerald A. Cooper

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Dean M. Esserman

Chief, Metro North, NY

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President, Fraternal
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E. Douglas Hamilton

Chief, Louisville, KY

Phil E. Keith

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Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO

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Chief, Miami, FL

Robert S. Warshaw

Chief, Rochester, NY

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Chief, Austin, TX

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Ellen Halbert

Vice-Chair, Texas Board of
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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
Elissa Rumsey

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS
After-School Programs or After-School Programs
September 10, 1997

Order of Speakers

Sanford Newman

Phil Keith

Jean Lewis

Ralph Martin

Patrick Sullivan

Ellen Halbert

Janet Reno



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**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons
Elissa Rumsey

EMBARGOED

for Wednesday, Sept. 10, 1997, 10 a.m.

CONTACT: John Bartlett
(202) 638-0690

Crime Fighters Hand Report to Reno: After-School Hours Are Prime Time for Juvenile Crime

*Sweeping New Report Shows After-School Programs
Could Sharply Cut Youth Crime*

Law Enforcement Leaders and Crime Victims Urge Congress to Invest In Kids

[Washington, D.C.] Far more juvenile crime takes place in the hours immediately following school dismissal than late at night, reveals a new report presented to Attorney General Janet Reno today by FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS, the national crime prevention organization of police, prosecutors and crime survivors. The report finds that Congress could sharply reduce crime by increasing access to quality after-school programs and other programs for children and youth proven to cut crime.

Speaking at The Other Way, a school providing alternative education programs for at-risk youth in Montgomery County, Maryland, leaders in law enforcement and victims' advocacy presented the report to Reno and pointed to the powerful evidence that investments in children and youth can dramatically reduce crime.

Reno said the report's conclusions "reinforce my commitment to excellent, effective after-school programs. To reduce juvenile crime, we just go where the crime is, and help communities steer their at-risk kids toward healthier, more productive choices."

The report, based on newly-available comprehensive FBI data from eight states, confirms that the peak hours for violent juvenile crime are between 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM. "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," it concludes.

Focusing on days when school is in session — which account for 57% of violent crime committed by juveniles — the report finds that nearly half of all such violent juvenile crime takes place during the six hour period between 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM, and nearly two thirds 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 sometimes suggested.

The law enforcement leaders and crime victims who presented the report to Reno criticized Congress' neglect of crime prevention in bills Congress is expected to finalize over the next few weeks.

"If Congress really wants to win the war on crime, it should sharply boost investments in the proven programs for kids that can keep them from ever becoming criminals — like the after-school programs that we know can give them alternatives to the street," said **Knoxville (TN) Chief of Police Phil Keith**. "Those are our most powerful weapons against crime — and the ones that can most effectively stop crime before people get hurt."

"What happened to me didn't have to happen," said **Ellen Halbert** of Austin, Texas, who was brutally raped, beaten with a hammer and stabbed repeatedly by an intruder in her home. "If Congress were investing in programs like good schools and after-school programs, and the even earlier interventions we know can give kids the right start, I probably wouldn't have needed those 600 stitches and all those surgeries to repair the damage."

Halbert served as Vice-Chair of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice from 1993 to 1997 — the first crime victim to serve on the board. She is a 1997 recipient of the National Crime Victims' Service Award, the highest Federal honor for a crime victim or victim advocate.

"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," said **Suffolk County (MA) District Attorney Ralph Martin**, the first Republican to hold that position. "The back-end strategy of arrest and incarceration is incomplete without front-end investments that we know can help kids and keep Americans safe."

The 'war on crime' will never be won until we cut the enemy's most important supply line: its ability to turn kids into criminals," **Martin** added. "That's going to take greater investments in school-based and after-school programs that identify at-risk kids earlier, and give them the armor of values and skills they need to ward off the seduction of gangs and violence."

"To make America safe, we need to be as willing to guarantee our kids space in an after-school or job training program as we are to guarantee a criminal room and board in a prison cell," said **Jean Lewis, President of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children**. "The verdict is in. If we want to do more than flex our muscles and talk about crime — if we want to really keep Americans safe — we must start investing in the programs we know can steer kids down the right path."

RENO, CRIME FIGHTERS: PREVENTION MUST BE CORNERSTONE OF JUVENILE CRIME BILLS

As Congress continues its work on juvenile crime legislation, Attorney General Reno emphasized the power of preventive investments and the overwhelming support for these measures from America's crime fighters. Law enforcement leaders nationwide have expressed concern over the failure of current juvenile crime initiatives — especially the pending appropriations for after-school programs and the Senate's juvenile crime bill (S. 10), which was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee in July and expected to

be considered by the full Senate in the next few weeks — to provide funding for crime-prevention investments.

“Police leaders know America’s commitment to putting criminals in jail must be matched by its commitment to keeping kids from becoming criminals in the first place,” said **Keith**, citing a poll by **Northeastern University’s Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research** in which police chiefs nationwide, when asked to rank crime reduction strategies, picked “increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start” as the “most effective” nearly 4-to-1 over all other options, including “trying more juveniles as adults.”

RESULTS OF THIS NATIONAL POLL OF POLICE CHIEFS ARE AVAILABLE

“When Congress fails to support these proven crime-prevention programs, they force us to fight with one hand tied behind our backs,” said **Arapahoe County (CO) Sheriff Patrick Sullivan**, who **serves on the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs’ Association**. “Congress can invest in the programs shown to dramatically reduce crime, or it can wait for more innocent Americans to get hurt or killed and then pretend that prisons are a substitute for prevention.”

The Senate’s juvenile crime bill, sponsored by Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT), authorizes \$703 million annually in new funding , but earmarks none of the money for prevention. **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS** estimates that only about 9 percent of the new funds in the bill would wind up being used for prevention — far less than is needed to have a significant crime-prevention impact.

ANALYSIS OF THE BILLS’ CRIME PREVENTION IMPACT AVAILABLE

“These bills, with their wait-for-the-crime approaches, shortchange both the effective programs proven to prevent crime by helping kids get the right start so they never become criminals, and the intensive help that can steer kids back on track when they first begin to get into trouble,” said **Sanford Newman**, **President of FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS** and the report’s co-author (with **James Alan Fox, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University**).

“These bills claim they’ll stop crime by building more prisons; that’s like saying we can cure death by building more cemeteries. It’s too little, too late, for too many Americans,” said **Marc Klaas**, whose daughter Polly was abducted from her Petaluma, Ca., home and murdered in 1993. “When our Congressional representatives ignore our most effective weapons against crime, the way I see it, they’re being soft on crime.”

“When police chiefs hear someone say we can’t afford investments in programs that help kids get the right start, we see more bright yellow crime scene tape, more prisons, and thousands of good men and women and boys and girls lying in pools of blood,” said **Patrick Murphy**, **former Police Commissioner in New York City, Detroit, Washington D.C. and Syracuse**.

"We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable kids, instead of waiting until they become America's most wanted criminals," said **Buffalo Police Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske**.

OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE: INVESTMENTS IN KIDS DRAMATICALLY CUT CRIME

Newman cited other studies showing that investments in at-risk kids of all ages can cut crime rates dramatically. For example:

- A study of a 32-month after-school recreation program in a Canadian public housing project found that crime dropped 75% in the project that received the program compared with previous years, while crime jumped 67% in a nearby project that didn't have the program.
- Denying at-risk high school kids participation in a special "Quantum Opportunities Program" of counseling, academic and life-skills support and other incentives quadrupled their risk of being arrested while in high school. But participation made them more than twice as likely to graduate and one-third more likely to go on to post-secondary schooling.
- Participation in a quality mentoring program like Big Brothers/Big Sisters has been shown to cut in half the risk that 10- to 16-year-olds will start using drugs, according to a study by Public/Private Ventures. The study also showed that children without mentors were more likely to start using alcohol, and used hitting as a way to settle disputes twice as often as Little Brothers/Little Sisters.
- A High/Scope Foundation study in Ypsilanti, Mich., showed that at-risk toddlers denied a program of quality child care and a home visit by a parenting coach were five times more likely to be chronic offenders by age 27 than those provided these services.
- A Syracuse University study found that providing quality early-childhood programs to families until children reached age five cut those kids' risk of being delinquent as teenagers by 90 percent.
- Another recent study showed that child abuse and neglect doubles kids chances of becoming chronic lawbreakers as adults. The good news is that programs offering parenting coaching to at-risk parents who want it have been shown to reduce abuse and neglect by up to 80 percent.
- Even when youths begin to get in trouble, we don't have to throw in the towel. Studies in Utah and South Carolina have shown that family-based therapy for first-time offenders cut in half not only their chances of recidivism, but also the risk that their siblings would become delinquent.

DATA ON THE ANTI-CRIME EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AVAILABLE

"We could be saving thousands of lives — and sparing thousands of families unimaginable heartbreak — by investing up front in the proven programs for kids that can turn them away from crime," said National Parents of Murdered Children President **Jean Lewis**. "Anything less is too little, too late, for too many Americans."

END

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Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Communications Director
John W. Bartlett

PRESENTATION OF NEW JUVENILE CRIME REPORT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO September 10, 1997

Participant Biographies

James Alan Fox, Ph.D.
Boston, Massachusetts

Dr. James Alan Fox is Dean and Professor of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University in Boston. He has published twelve books on violence in America, as well as dozens of journal and magazine articles and newspaper columns, primarily in the areas of multiple murder, juvenile crime, workplace violence, and capital punishment.

As an authority on homicide, he appears regularly on television and radio programs around the country, including 48 Hours, 20/20, The Today Show, and network newscasts, as well as talk shows like Oprah and Donahue. He was recently profiled in a two-part cover story in USA Today, entitled "The Dean of Death."

Fox often gives lectures and expert testimony, including four appearances before the United States Congress, a White House meeting with President Clinton and Vice President Gore on youth violence, and a private briefing to Attorney General Reno on trends in juvenile violence.

Ellen Halbert
Austin, Texas

Ellen Halbert's involvement in criminal justice began after a brutal attack she suffered in 1986, when an intruder broke into her home and repeatedly raped her, stabbed her three times in the neck and the chest and hit her ten times with a hammer before pounding a knife into her skull and leaving her for dead. In 1991, Ms. Halbert became the first crime victim to be appointed to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, which oversees the massive Texas Criminal Justice System of prisons, parole supervision and probation. In 1997, after serving as the Texas Board's Vice Chair, Ms. Halbert received the prestigious Crime Victims' Service Award from the Justice Department's Office of Victims of Crime, the highest federal honor for a crime victim or victims' advocate.

Phil E. Keith
Knoxville, Tennessee

Phil Keith is the Chief of Police of the Knoxville Police Department. During his 24 years working in criminal justice, public safety, and business administration, he has had numerous high-level, policy-making positions. During Chief Keith's tenure, the department has become nationally accredited and has been selected as a national demonstration site for community policing.



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Chief Keith has been recognized as Officer of the Year, Law Enforcement Educator of the Year and the nationally acclaimed Planner of the Year award. He is recognized around the country as an expert in patrol safety, juvenile justice issues, organizational development strategies and training and development of personnel. In 1994, Mr. Keith served on the U.S. Conference of Mayors Crime Task Force, comprised of six mayors and six police chiefs representing considerable involvement in the 1994 Crime Bill.

Jean Lewis
Sarasota, Florida

Jean Lewis founded the Peninsula/South Bay, California, chapter of Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) in 1981, one year after her son was murdered. She led POMC for eight years and served as the POMC California State Coordinator for four years.

Ms. Lewis, a former school teacher, facilitates POMC retreats around the country, and presents workshops about the aftermath of murder at various trainings and conferences. She also teaches at the National Victim Service Academy and is serving her third year as President of the National Board of Trustees of Parents of Murdered Children.

Ralph C. Martin, II
Boston, Massachusetts

Ralph C. Martin II, of Boston, is the first African-American and Republican to serve as the District Attorney for Suffolk County — the busiest and largest district attorney's office in New England. Since his appointment in 1992 (he was re-elected in 1994), Martin has initiated a variety of reforms with the goal of making the prosecutor's office more accessible and more proactive in the fight against crime. These initiatives include the state's first Safe Neighborhood Initiative, a Children's Advocacy Center, the Community Based Juvenile Justice Program and the Juvenile Priority Prosecution Program.

Patrick V. Murphy
Washington, D.C.

In more than 51 years of law enforcement, Patrick V. Murphy has served as the Police Commissioner of New York City; Washington, D.C.; Syracuse; and Detroit - more major cities than anyone else in U.S. history. In between, he headed the federal government's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Murphy later headed the Police Foundation, the F.B.I. Law Enforcement Bulletin noted that his "long-range impact on American policing nationally probably will be judged by students of police history as significant as that of J. Edgar Hoover." He is currently the Director of the Police Policy Board of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Chair of the Montgomery County (MD) Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission. He holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration and graduated from the FBI National Academy. Mr. Murphy is widely considered to be "the father of community policing," and has written numerous articles on policing as well as teaching at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

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Mr. Murphy's emphasis on hard-nosed research to learn what works and his commitment to implementing research findings have won international acclaim, including a special award from the Queen of England for his service in assisting Scotland Yard. Mr. Murphy serves as a member of the FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS National Advisory Committee and Board of Directors.

Sanford Newman
Takoma Park, Maryland

Sanford A. Newman is an attorney and the President of FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS. His commitment to this effort has been nourished by a belief in the potential of children, as well as by his own experience of crime. He has twice been a victim serious crime, once when he was mugged in a small town in Connecticut at the age of eighteen, and later when he and his wife awoke in the middle of the night to find an intruder crouching between their bed and their newborn's crib. Newman graduated from Wesleyan University in 1974 and the University of Virginia Law School in 1977.

Janet Reno

Janet Reno was sworn in as the nation's 78th Attorney General by President Clinton on March 12, 1993. From 1978 to the time of her appointment, Ms. Reno served as the State Attorney for Dade County, Florida. Ms. Reno was a partner in the Miami-based law firm of Steel, Hector & Davis from 1976-1978. Before that, she served as an assistant state attorney and as Staff Director of the Florida House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, after starting her legal career in private practice.

Patrick J. Sullivan Jr.
Littleton, Colorado

Patrick Sullivan has been the Sheriff of Arapahoe County for the past 14 years. He has been active in the National Sheriffs' Association as a member of the Board of Directors and as a member of the Executive Committee. He was appointed as Sheriff of Arapahoe County in June of 1983. He graduated from the F.B.I. National Academy in 1977 and from the National Sheriffs' Institute in 1983. He was Chief Counter of the U.S. Army Intelligence Command from 1966 to 1969, and was a police officer in the Littleton, Colorado, Police Department from 1962 until 1966.

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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

FACT SHEET

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons
Elissa Rumsey

WHAT

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS is a bipartisan, nonprofit crime prevention organization led by America's best-known police chiefs, prosecutors and crime survivors.

WHY

Its mission is to help Americans understand that our most powerful weapons against crime are the programs proven to keep kids from becoming criminals in the first place. These include early childhood programs, quality Head Start and child care, prevention of child abuse and neglect, good schools and after-school programs, as well as programs that nip delinquency in the bud by getting troubled kids back on track.

WHO

FIGHT CRIME is led by a National Advisory Committee that includes over two dozen police chiefs and prosecutors, including the presidents of the Fraternal Order of Police, the International Union of Police Associations, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Police Executive Research Forum; former Attorney General Elliot Richardson; and such well-known crime survivors as Marc Klaas and the president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children.

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS' National Advisory Committee is complemented by its National Crime and Violence Prevention Resource Council which includes leading experts in criminology, child development and law enforcement.

HOW

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS:

- Develops policy recommendations and analyzes the crime-prevention impact of public policy proposals.
- Conducts local, state and national public education efforts about effective crime prevention programs.
- Builds at the national, state and local levels leadership committees of police, prosecutors and crime survivors as well as resource councils of experts in fields such as child and youth development, criminology and law enforcement.
- Builds grassroots networks of individuals committed to educating their own neighbors and public officials.
- Serves as an information clearinghouse for journalists, policy-makers and the public.

BACKGROUND

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS was launched in July, 1996.

Principal funding has come from: the Hitachi Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the Public Welfare Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Stern Family Fund, the Nathan Cummings Foundation, the Butler Family Fund, the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation, the Harris Foundation, the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in North Carolina, and the Woods Fund of Illinois.



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FIGHT CRIME: VICTIMS' SERVICES IN KIDS

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(in formation)

Law Enforcement Leaders

- **Philip Arreola**, Chief of Police, Tacoma, Washington; former Chief of Police, Milwaukee & Port Huron, WI.
- **Sherman Block**, Sheriff, Los Angeles County, CA
- **William Bratton**, Former Police Commissioner, NYC, and Boston, MA.
- **Sam A. Cabral**, International President, International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO.
- **Gerald A. Cooper**, former Chief of Police, Evanston, Illinois.
- **Dean M. Esserman**, Chief of Police, Metro North, NY; former Assistant District Attorney, Kings Co., NY.
- **Gilbert G. Gallegos**, National President, Fraternal Order of Police.
- **E. Douglas Hamilton**, Chief of Police, Louisville, Kentucky.
- **Phil E. Keith**, Chief of Police, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- **R. Gil Kerlikowske**, Police Commiss'r, Buffalo, NY; President, Police Executive Research Forum; former Chief, Ft. Pierce, FL.
- **Talmadge N. Moore**, Chief of Police, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- **Charles A. Moose**, Chief of Police, Portland, Oregon.
- **Patrick V. Murphy**, Director, Police Policy Board, US Conference of Mayors; former President, Police Foundation; former Chief of Police, New York City, Detroit, Washington, D.C., and Syracuse.
- **Dennis E. Nowicki**, Chief of Police, Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina; Vice President, Police Executive Research Forum; former Chief of Police, Joliet, IL.
- **Nicholas Pastore**, Chief of Police, New Haven, Connecticut.
- **Matt L. Rodriguez**, Superintendent of Police, Chicago, Illinois; Chairman, Major Cities Chiefs Association; Chairman, Hispanic Institute of Law Enforcement.
- **Joseph Samuels**, Chief of Police, Oakland, CA.
- **Darrel W. Stephens**, Chief of Police, St. Petersburg, Florida; former Chief of Police, Newport News, VA and Largo, FL, former Executive Director, Police Executive Research Forum.
- **Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.**, Sheriff, Arapahoe County, Colorado; Board of Directors, National Sheriffs' Ass'n.
- **Donald H. Warshaw**, Chief of Police, Miami, Florida.
- **Robert S. Warshaw**, Chief of Police, Rochester, New York; former Chief of Police, Statesville, NC
- **Elizabeth M. Watson**, Chief of Police, Austin, Texas; former Chief of Police, Houston, TX.

Prosecutors

- **Ronald Earle**, District Attorney, Travis County, Texas.
- **Norman S. Early, Jr.**, Former District Attorney, Denver, Colorado.
- **Ralph C. Martin, II**, District Attorney, Suffolk County, Massachusetts.
- **Jack O'Malley**, State's Attorney, Cook County, Illinois.
- **Elliot L. Richardson**, former US Attorney General, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, and Secretary of Commerce, former US Attorney and Attorney General of Massachusetts.
- **Grant Woods**, Attorney General, Arizona.

Crime Survivors

- **Frances Davis**, Founder, Mothers of all Children; Recipient, 1996 President's Crime Victims' Services Award. Ms. Davis lost her three sons, Raleak, Andrew, and Frankie, and two nephews, Dwayne and Glennis, to murder.
- **Carole Grant Hall**, Director, Ginger Ridge Residents' Initiative in Chicago; Ms. Hall's son Lateef was killed as he knelt to protect a toddler from random crossfire.
- **Ellen Halbert**, Vice-Chair of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice. Ms. Halbert was repeatedly raped, beaten with a hammer, and stabbed in the head, neck and chest by an intruder in her home who left her for dead.
- **Marc Klaas**, Founder of the Polly Klaas Foundation and the Marc Klaas Foundation for Children. His twelve-year old daughter Polly was murdered after being abducted from her home in October, 1993.
- **Dennis Lees, Ph.D.**, Program Manager at a California Mental Health Department, former clinical social worker for abused and neglected children and their families. His daughter Sarah was murdered by an intruder.
- **Jean Lewis**, President, Parents of Murdered Children; Ms. Lewis' 21 year old son Scott was murdered in 1980.
- **Gordon and Elaine Rondeau**, Co-founders of Action America: Murder Must End Now; Mr. Rondeau also heads an international technology consulting firm. Their daughter Renee was strangled by an intruder in her apartment on Halloween, 1994.

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
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Brendan J. Fitzsimons

NATIONAL CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESOURCE COUNCIL

(in formation)

- **Barbara Bowman, M.A.:** President, Erikson Institute of Advanced Study in Child Development.
- **John A. Calhoun, M.P.A.:** Executive Director, National Crime Prevention Council; former Commissioner of the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families; former Commissioner of Youth Services in Massachusetts.
- **Donald Cohen, M.D.:** Director, Yale Child Study Center; Irving B. Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Psychology; President, Int'l. Association of Child Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions.
- **Sanford M. Dornbusch, Ph.D.:** Reed-Hodgson Professor Emeritus, Human Biology, Sociology, and Education, Stanford University; Chair, Advisory Board of the Stanford Center on Adolescence; former President, Society for Research On Adolescence.
- **Craig W. Floyd:** Chairman, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.
- **James Alan Fox, Ph.D.:** Dean and Professor, College of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University.
- **John W. Gardner, Ph.D.:** Consulting Professor, School of Education, Stanford University; former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.
- **Richard Gerber, M.D.:** Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, George Washington University Medical School; Teaching Analyst, Washington Psychoanalytic Institute.
- **Alice Sterling Honig, Ph.D.:** Professor Emerita, Child Development; former Program Director, Syracuse University Children's Center; co-author of The Family Development Research Program Longitudinal Follow-up Study.
- **Thomas. C. Joe:** Director and founder, Center for the Study of Social Policy.
- **J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D.:** Director, Center for Child and Family Studies, Far West Laboratory for Educational Research and Development; former Program Director, The Family Development Research Program Longitudinal Follow-up Study.
- **Steven Marans, Ph.D.:** Director, Child Development-Community Policing, Yale Child Study Center.
- **Ray Marshall, Ph.D.:** Rapoport Centennial Chair in Economics and Public Affairs, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin; former U.S. Secretary of Labor.
- **Jack McDevitt, Ph.D.:** Professor, College of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University; Co-Director, Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research.
- **Lisbeth B. Schorr:** School of Medicine, Harvard University; author of *Within Our Reach: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage*.
- **David P. Weikart, Ph.D.:** President, High/Scope Educational Research Foundation; Founder, High/Scope Perry Preschool Project.
- **Bernice Weissbourd:** President, Family Resource Council; founder, Family Focus; member, National Commission on Children; former Vice President, Nat'l Assoc. for the Education of Young Children.
- **Richard Weissbourd, Ph.D.:** Professor, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.
- **Chuck Wexler, Ph.D.:** Executive Director, Police Executive Research Forum.

October 25, 1996

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A project of the Action Against Crime and Violence Education Fund

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Chief, Portland, OR

Patrick V. Murphy

Former Commiss'r, NYC,

DC, Detroit, Syracuse

Dennis E. Nowicki

Chief, Charlotte-

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Nicholas Pastore

Chief, New Haven, CT

Matt 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

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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 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
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Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons
Elissa Rumsey

Police Chiefs Say More Government Investments in Kids are Key to Fighting Crime

Survey Findings

Attached are results from a poll conducted in July 1996 for Fight Crime: Invest In Kids by the Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research, under the direction of Professor Jack McDevitt.

The survey sought opinions of 780 police chiefs, including all chiefs from cities with populations over 100,000, and a sample of 288 chiefs from cities of less than 25,000, and 292 chiefs from cities of between 25,000 and 100,000. The response rate was 70% for a total of 548 surveys returned.

More than nine out of ten police chiefs (92%) agreed with the statement "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." These results were strikingly similar regardless of region or city size.

Nine out of ten 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." Again, these results were nearly identical regardless of city size.

When chiefs were asked to rank the long-term effectiveness of a number of possible crime fighting approaches, "increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" was picked as "most effective" nearly four times as often as either "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

More detailed results available upon request.



GRAPH 1(A)

Question 1: Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statement: *In the long run, America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start (for example, 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).*

Percent of Departments Nationwide Indicating Agreement/Disagreement

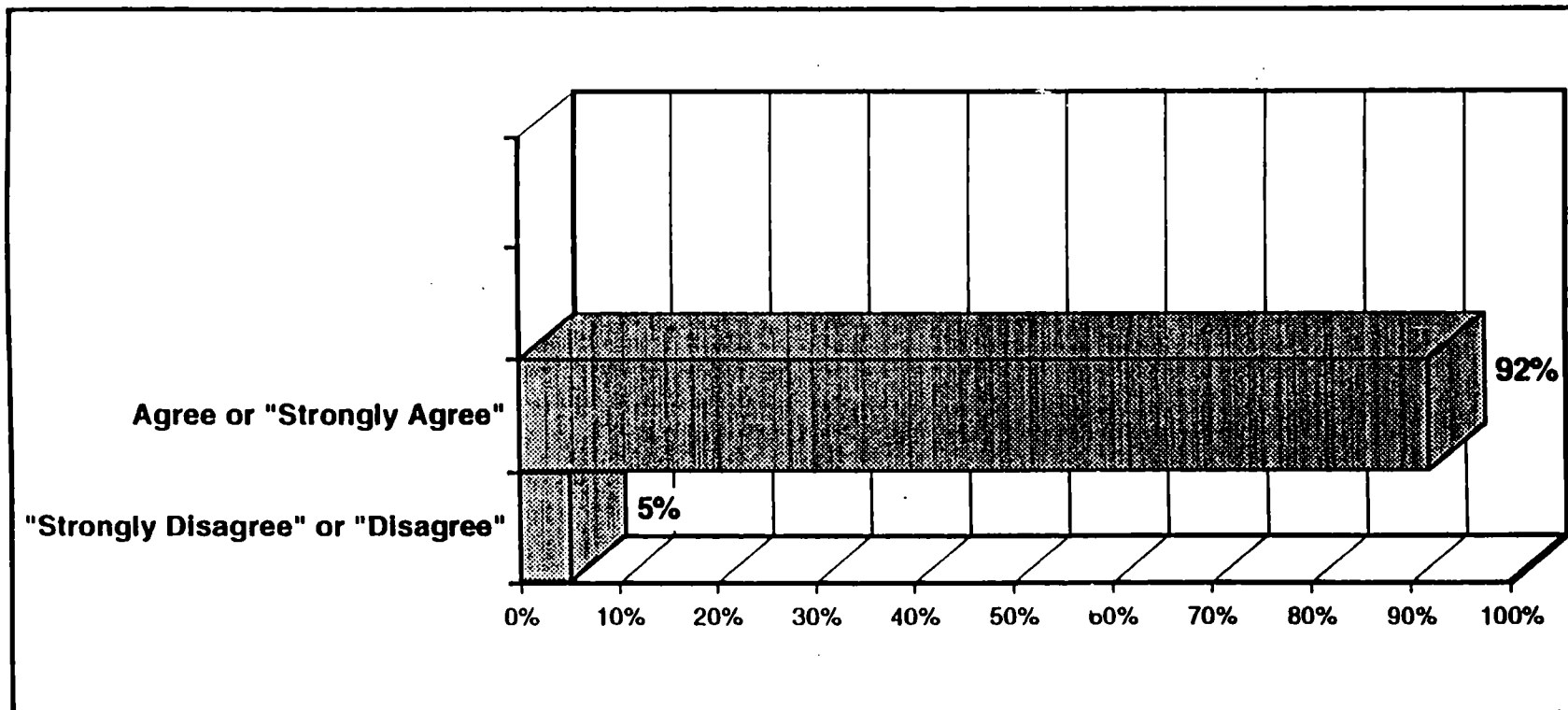


Table 4(A)

4. Please rank each of the following policies on a scale of 1 to 4, giving a "1" to the policy you think is most effective and a "4" to the policy you think is the least effective according to their long-term effectiveness in reducing crime and violence. (please use each number only once)

- A) Trying more juveniles as adults, and sentencing more juveniles to adult prisons.
- B) Increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start.
- C) Hiring of additional police officers.
- D) Making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.

*Percent of departments indicating the following policies are the "most effective"*¹³

Policy	Size of Community			
	NationWide	25,000 and under	25,001 to 100,000	100,001 or more
A) Trying more juveniles as adults, and sentencing more juveniles to adult prisons.	16	20 (n=205)	10 (n=184)	12 (n=154)
B) Increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start.	60	51 (n=206)	67 (n=185)	74 (n=155)
C) Hiring of additional police officers.	17	20 (n=205)	11 (n=185)	17 (n=155)
D) Making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.	26	32 (n=204)	19 (n=186)	18 (n=154)

¹³ Some respondents gave more than one policy a rank of "1." Therefore, not all percentages total exactly 100.

Table 2(A)

Question 2: Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

- A)** 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.
- B)** Greater investment in children and youth may be worthwhile, but will not be valuable as a crime prevention tool.

View	Size of Community			
	Nationwide %	25,000 and under %	25,001 to 100,000 %	100,001 or more %
A) Invest now or pay far more later	90	88	90	94
B) Perhaps worthwhile but not effective for crime prevention	10	12	10	6
		n=203	n=183	n=154

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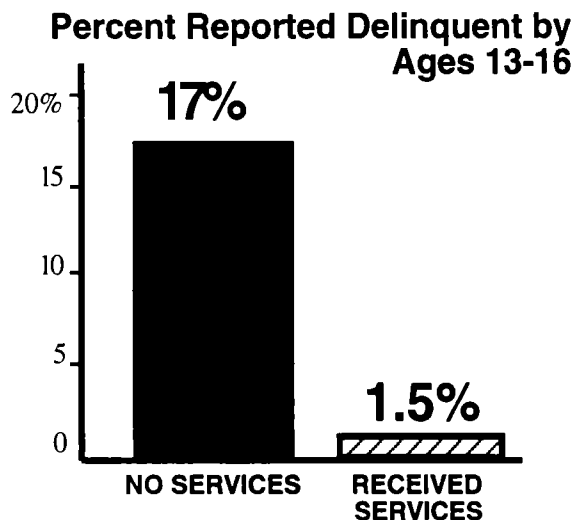
OUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME

Study after study shows that investments in programs to help children and youth get the right start dramatically reduce crime. The most effective strategy is a continuum of investments spanning from birth through adolescence. And even when kids begin to get in trouble, it is clear that effective programs can dramatically reduce the likelihood of recidivism. The following graphs illustrate a few of the leading studies.

Early Childhood Investments Cut Delinquency

Syracuse Family Development Research Program

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



The Syracuse University Family Development Research Program showed that delinquency was reduced by 91% when families were provided parent-training home visits, early childhood education, nutritional, health, safety and other human services beginning prenatally and continuing until children reached elementary school age. Just ten years after the children began elementary school:

- Of those children who had received the services, only one had been charged with serious delinquency, and only 6% had even been reported "ungovernable" to juvenile authorities;
- Among those children who had **not** received the family development and early childhood services, nearly one in five had already been charged with offenses, including burglary, robbery, assault, and sexual assault. At age 15, nearly one in ten were already "chronic offenders."

In short, those denied services as toddlers were *ten times more likely* to be delinquent as young teens.

Source: 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", in The Zero to Three Child Care Anthology, 1984-1992, (Arlington: Zero to Three, 1992), pp. 95-103.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

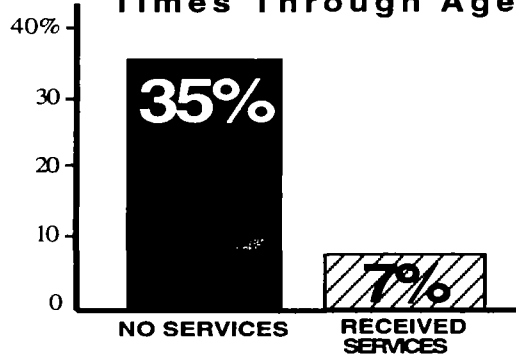
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Preschool & Home Visit Programs Cut Crime and Save Money

High/Scope Perry Preschool & Home Visit Program

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

Percent Arrested 5 or More Times Through Age 27

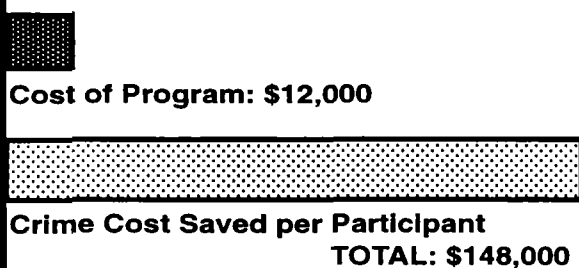


In the High/Scope Perry Preschool study, three and four year olds were randomly divided into a control group and a group participating in a quality preschool program with a weekly home visit aimed at teaching their parents child-rearing skills. Years later, when these toddlers were 27 years old, a comparison of arrest records for the two groups found that the preschool and parent training program had:

- cut arrest rates in half;
- cut “chronic offender” rates (number arrested more than four times) from one in three to one in fourteen, and among males from nearly one in two to less than one in eight — an 80% reduction. In short, those denied the services were *five times more likely* to have become chronic offenders.

High/Scope Perry Preschool & Home Visit Program

Preschool and home visits produced dramatic cost savings and prevented \$148,000 in crime costs alone for each child served.



The High/Scope Perry Preschool program stopped nearly \$120,000 per participant (and over \$163,000 per male participant) in costs to crime victims alone, as well as another \$30,000 per participant in criminal justice system savings, without even counting all its other benefits.

Even if one subtracts the interest which could have been earned on the money if it were used for investments other than early childhood education /parent training, the net savings are extraordinary — over \$70,000 per participant in crime-related costs alone, and a total of \$88,000 once welfare, tax, and other savings are included. **Every dollar invested in the program saved \$7.16.**

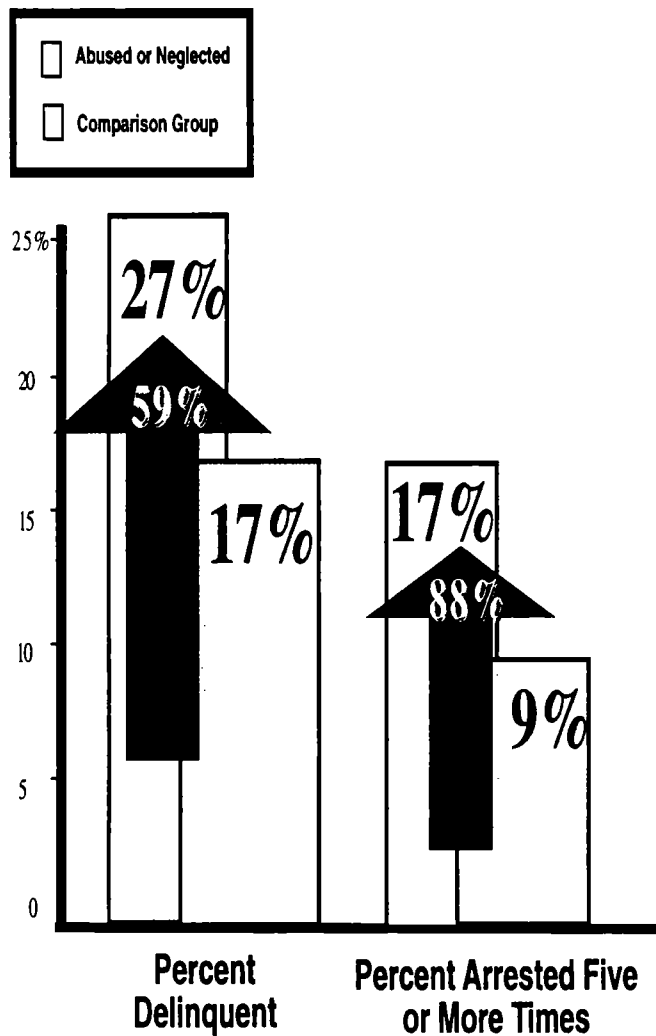
Source: Lawrence J. Schweinhart, Helen B. Barnes, and David P. Weikart, Significant Benefits: The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 27, High/Scope Educational Research Foundation, High/Scope Press Michigan, 1993, pp. xvii-xviii, 84-87.

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Abuse and Neglect Dramatically Increase a Child's Chances of Growing Up to Become a Chronic Offender

Abuse & Neglect Dramatically Increase Delinquency and Chronic Criminal Behavior



Source: Michael G. Maxfield and Cathy Spatz Widom; "The Cycle of Violence: Revisited 6 Years Later," *Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* Vol. 150, April 1996; Cathy Spatz Widom, "The Cycle of Violence," *National Institute of Justice*, October 1992.

In one of the most detailed studies of the issue to date, the National Institute of Justice concluded that being abused or neglected as a child increased the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 59%, as an adult by 27%, and for a violent crime by 29%. Those who had been abused or neglected were nearly **twice as likely** as a demographically matched comparison group to **have been arrested more than five times**.¹

Alarming, approximately 3 million children a year experience physical abuse or neglect.

We don't have to wait for children to be abused or neglected. We can dramatically reduce abuse or neglect—and crime.

¹Michael 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.

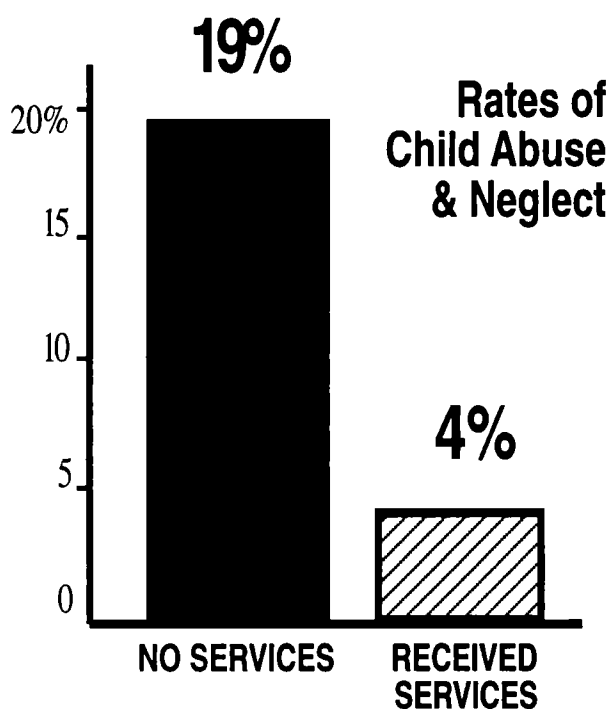
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Home Visiting Programs Cut Abuse and Neglect

Rochester Medical School Nurse Home Visitation Program

Nurses visiting high-risk mothers at home cut the rates of abuse and neglect among participants by 80%.



The Prenatal and Early Childhood Nurse Home Visitation Program, sponsored by the University of Rochester Medical School, provided low-income, first-time teen mothers and their babies home visits by a specially trained nurse during pregnancy and for two years after the child's birth. Nurses provided coaching for parents on child development, child-rearing skills, and children's health needs, as well as connecting them with other community health and human service agencies, and informal support networks of friends and family.

By the time the children turned four, only one in twenty-five receiving the services had been abused or neglected—compared to one in five of the control group. The program had cut the rates of abuse and neglect by 80%. In other words, denying these services quintupled the risk of abuse and neglect.¹

Hawaii's statewide Healthy Start program screens new mothers at hospitals to identify at-risk families.² Families have the option to enroll in a comprehensive services program (about 95% accept) which provides preventive health care and home visits by professionals trained to provide coaching in parenting skills and child development and to offer informal counseling on family problems. Two studies have shown the program cut abuse and neglect by 50-60%.³

¹Olds, 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.

²James C. Howell, ed., *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.

³See Center on Child Abuse Prevention Research, National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse. Chicago, IL. "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.

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SHORT SHRIFT FOR PREVENTION

Over the next few weeks, Congress will face two important test of its commitment to passing meaningful juvenile crime prevention.

1) After-School Programs: Preventing Crime During the Prime Time of Juvenile Crime.

The President's budget proposed \$63 million in funding for after-school programs:

- \$50 million for 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which provides funds for expanded learning opportunities for children after-school, weekends and summers.
- \$13 million for the Community Schools program, which provides money to local schools and community groups working to prevent crime and violence through after-school and summer programs for children.

Even the amounts proposed by the administration, which reflect what they felt Congress would realistically appropriate, barely begin to scratch the surface of the need for after-school programs.

While the House appropriations committee has recommended \$50 million for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, the Senate appropriations committee has recommended only \$1 million in funding. Neither the Senate nor the House have recommended funding for the Community Schools program.

2) Crime Prevention and the Senate's Juvenile Justice Bill.

S. 10, "Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Act of 1997," sponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), has been ordered reported out of the Judiciary Committee and will soon be considered by the Senate.

S. 10 authorizes approximately \$868 million a year for five years, including \$150 million for existing federal juvenile justice grants and \$718 million in new funding. *Less than 9%* of the new funding would likely go towards prevention.

Of the \$718 million in new funding authorized under the bill:

- \$500 million is for a block grant of which:
 - ∞ *At least* \$300 million (60%) is required to go for graduated sanctions, juvenile facilities, drug testing of juvenile delinquents, and for juvenile records.
 - ∞ *At most* \$200 million (40%) is available for: truancy prevention and crime prevention programs, including curfews, youth organizations and after-school programs; programs requiring juvenile offenders to complete school or vocational training; programs requiring juvenile offenders to pay child support; or programs requiring offenders to make restitution to victims.

 Experience with Byrne grants and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grants shows that simply lumping crime prevention in as one of the many allowable uses of a block grant resulted in no more than 9% of block granted funds being used for prevention. **If history is a guide, this means that roughly 9% of the \$200 million portion of this block grant for which prevention is an allowable use—or just \$18 million of the \$500 million block grant—would go for the programs that keep crimes from happening in the first place.**

The remaining prevention funding only includes:

- \$40 million out of a \$100 million High Intensity Interstate Gang Activity Areas block grant program to establish regional taskforces to coordinate investigation, apprehension, and prosecution of criminal activities of gangs and gang members.
- \$15 million for Boys and Girls Clubs.
- \$3 million for a pilot program to replicate successful juvenile crime reduction strategies.

This means that of the \$718 million in new funding in S. 10, only \$76 million—10%—would likely go for prevention.

Expected Crime Prevention Amendments to S. 10:

Biden Amendment for preventive after-school programs. Would earmark \$100 million of the \$500 million annual block grant to be used for grants for after-school, weekend and summer youth programs, and for programs for juveniles who have committed juvenile offenses or are identified as at risk of doing so.

Specter Amendment. Would require that 50% of funds allocated under the \$500 million annual block grant be used to provide: literacy and job training, substance-abuse treatment for juvenile offenders, or after-school and other community-based programs to prevent truancy, school violence and juvenile crime.

House Action on Juvenile Crime Legislation

The House has divided its consideration of juvenile crime legislation into two bills.

H.R. 3, "Juvenile Crime Control Act of 1997," sponsored by Rep. Bill McCollum (R-FL), was approved by the House on May 8th.:

- Provides \$1.5 billion over three years for block grants for corrections, prison-building, prosecution, sanctions, and probation; and
- ☞ Not only provides no designated funding for prevention, but prevention *is not an allowable* use of any of these federal funds.

The bill's supporters say that they are not opposed to prevention funding, but that they do not believe their bill is the proper legislative vehicle for such funding; that such funds can be provided under H.R. 1818, the Juvenile Justice Reauthorization Bill.

H.R. 1818, "Juvenile Justice Reauthorization Bill," co-sponsored by Rep. Frank Riggs (R-CA) and Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), passed overwhelmingly in the House on July 15th.

- Creates a block grant of an unspecified size for prevention and treatment programs, and could be an important step in the right direction if programs are not just authorized but appropriated. This block grant would replace specific prevention programs currently authorized in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

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Major Points about Current and Future Trends in Youth Violence
James Alan Fox, Northeastern University

Recent crime drops can be misleading. They should not lull us into a false sense of complacency about the problem of youth crime. Crime is down, but not out.

Last fall, the FBI reported that for 1985 and 1995, the U.S. homicide rate was virtually the same; that does not mean, however, that nothing has changed. There are two crime trends in America--one for the young and one for the mature, which are moving in opposite directions. From 1985 to 1995, the rate of killing by adults, ages 25 and over, declined 22 percent. At the same time, the rate of killing at the hands of teenagers soared, increasing 141 percent from 1985 to 1995.

The healthy drop in murder for 1996, based on the recent FBI preliminary report, may include a decrease among teenagers; we will know when the *Uniform Crime Reports* are released in the fall. Even with the drop in teen violence in 1995 over 1994, and the possible drop again in 1996, the rate of teen violence and murder remains twice as high as it was a decade ago. We have a long way to go before we can suggest that the youth crime problem has been arrested.

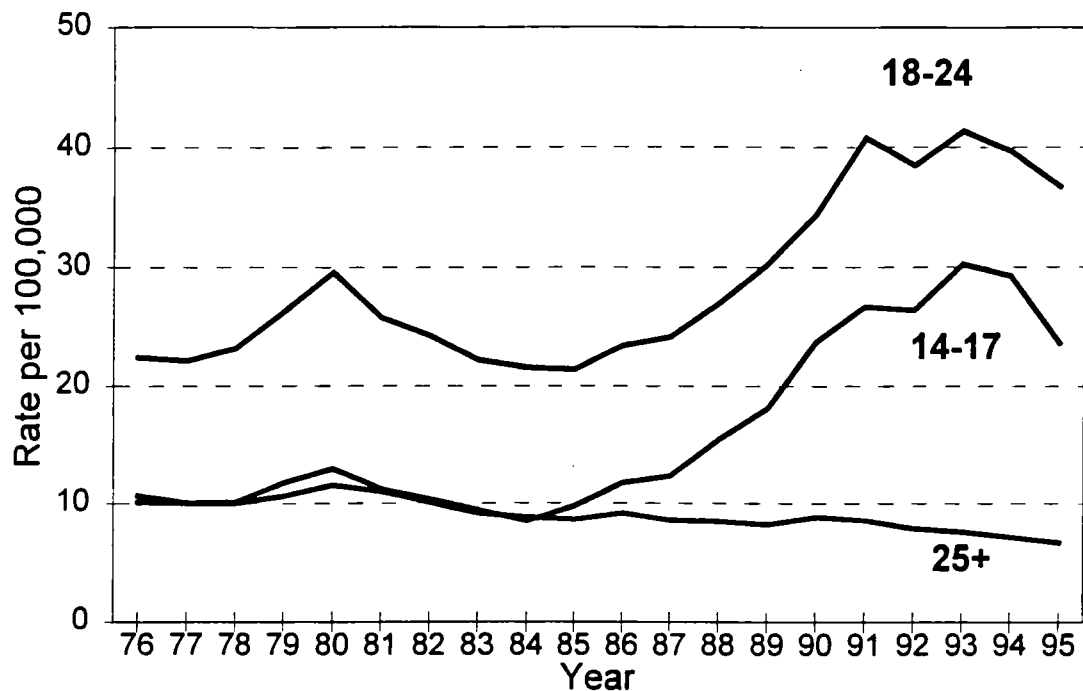
Future demographics, combined with the breakdown of many socializing forces and the overall disinvestment in youth, may make the problem of teen violence even worse in the years ahead. There are now 39 million children under the age of 10; they will be moving into their teenage years during the next decade. Many are poor and without adequate supervision.

By the year 2005, there will be a 17% increase in the number of teenagers, with a larger increase among African-Americans and Latinos. Attorney General Reno has suggested that "demographics does not have to be destiny." She is absolutely correct. It is up to us whether this next generation of teens is less violent than the last.

The movement in Congress toward increased punishment for juvenile offenders will not offer a solution. Prevention strategies aimed at young children and intervention approaches for at-risk teens will do the most to avert a future wave of teen violence. After-school programs, mentoring, and anti-violence strategies have been shown to impact positively on the attitude and behaviors of youth.

It is far more effective and considerably less expensive to "prehabilitate" the child by investing in prevention than to attempt to rehabilitate the adult through incarceration.

Homicide Offending Rate by Age



Source: James Alan Fox, Northeastern University

James Alan Fox, Ph.D.

Dr. James Alan Fox is Dean and Professor of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University in Boston. He has published twelve books on violence in America, as well as dozens of journal and magazine articles and newspaper columns, primarily in the areas of multiple murder, juvenile crime, workplace violence, and capital punishment.

Fox often gives lectures and expert testimony, including four appearances before the United States Congress, a White House meeting with President Clinton and Vice President Gore on youth violence, and a private briefing to Attorney General Reno on trends in juvenile violence.

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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 lines of the war on crime. In a poll by Northeastern University criminologist Jack McDavitt, 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 advisor board member of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

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 McDevitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said, "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in these programs. Police chiefs know their first mission is responding to the public's calls by arresting

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 Executive Research Forum.

BOSTON HERALD



BOSTON HERALD

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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.

The Charlotte Observer

METRO EDITION

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1996

The economics of crime: Pay now or pay later

Prosecutors know America will never win the war on crime until it invests more in getting kids the right start.

By PETER GILCHRIST

Special to The Observer

C rime is a major issue in federal, state and local elections across the country.

Most candidates spare no effort to prove they are the "toughest in their district." But few bother to tell us what they will do to strengthen our most powerful weapons against crime — the proven investments that help kids get the right start in life so they grow up to be contributing citizens instead of criminals.

This month, police, prosecutors and crime survivors from around the country, fed up with political slogans, said "Enough!" The crime

fighters have joined together to launch a nonpartisan campaign called Fight Crime: Invest In Kids and to write to all the nation's candidates.

Of course, they are determined to lock up dangerous criminals. But here's their challenge to candidates: What will you do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime — like parenting education, Head Start, child abuse prevention, after-school programs, and programs to keep kids from falling behind in school?

What makes us think programs like these prevent crime? First-hand, hard-nosed, real-world experience — and scientific evidence like this:

■ High/Scope's Perry Preschool randomly selected half of a group of vulnerable kids to receive a high

quality Head Start-type program when they were 3 to 4 years old, with weekly at-home coaching for their parents. A look at arrest records 23 years after the toddlers finished the program found that those who had not received the services were five times as likely to have more than four arrests.

■ Syracuse University's Family Development Research Program shows a 90 percent cut in delinquency resulting from early childhood programs.

■ The Quantum Opportunities Program showed that involving vulnerable high school kids in community service and providing them with counseling and with academic and other support cut in half the number who wound up arrested.

Last year, our office dealt with 9,000 felonies and sent a lot of people to prison — enough to tell me that street criminals and drug dealers are recruiting new troops for their army about as fast as we can get them locked up.

Prosecutors know America will

never win the war on crime until it invests more in getting kids the right start. We can pay now or pay later.

Police chiefs agree. Chief Dennis Nowicki says, "Shortchanging prevention efforts shortchanges public safety. We need to be as ready to provide tutoring or an after-school program for innocent kids as we are to guarantee criminals room and board in a jail cell."

Raleigh Police Chief Mitchell Brown says that when politicians ignore these right-start investments, "they are throwing away the weapons that could help us get the upper hand against crime." Greensboro Chief Sylvester Daughtry says, "We have to keep putting dangerous criminals behind bars. But we have to fight just as hard to keep kids from becoming criminals in the first place, and that means getting all kids the early childhood care, the good schools, and the youth programs they need."

In a recent poll, 9 out of 10 police chiefs agreed that "America could

sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs for kids," and warned that if we do not increase those investments now, "we will pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

Despite all the evidence, Congress has so shortchanged Head Start that it can serve only a third of our most vulnerable 3 and 4 year olds. Other programs serve even smaller fractions of the kids who need them. We can be proud of North Carolina's Smart Start community-based initiatives for kids, but far more remains to be done.

When you cast your votes, ask which candidates are ready to fight crime from the front end by investing in today's children rather than only from the back end after someone has been hurt. If voters want to know who is really going to do something about crime, that is a key question to ask.

Peter Gilchrist is Mecklenburg County district attorney. Write him c/o The Observer, P.O. Box 30308, Charlotte, NC 28230-0308.

Union-Tribune

OPINION

■ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Fighting crime by investing in kids

By Marc Klaas

My daughter Polly has made a lot of headlines in this campaign season. While I cannot support those who use her tragic death to distort an opponent's record, I do very much want Polly's death to help save other lives, and I know Polly would have felt that was the best memorial we could give her. In fact, the last words she said as she was led out of her bedroom at knifepoint were a plea that her abductor not hurt anyone else.

But if Polly's death is to help protect others, we need to go beyond talking about the death penalty, or even about prison sentences and focus on the most critical steps our communities and our nation can take to protect all of our children.

Giving them the right start

As hard as I fought to see that Polly's killer received the death sentence he deserves, that won't bring Polly back. But we can save thousands of children and adults if we invest now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start and keep them from becoming criminals in the first place.

The plain truth is that the most powerful weapons we have against crime are programs like Head Start, parenting education, mentoring, good schools and after-school programs, and job training — programs that can dramatically reduce crime by helping kids become productive citizens instead of brutal criminals. For example:

■ High/Scope Educational Research Foundation's Perry Preschool study combined a high-quality Head Start-style program for 3- and 4-year-olds with weekly home visits to coach their parents. Due to lack of funding, High Scope randomly chose half the children who applied.

Twenty-three years later, its researchers found that those kids denied the Head Start/parenting education program were five times as likely to have become chronic lawbreakers.

■ Other studies show that help for older kids can also significantly improve their — and our — chances. For example, when the Quantum Opportunities Program had high school kids participate in community service and gave them counseling, academic help and financial incentives, it cut the risk of arrest by 50 percent.

If you don't trust the studies, ask America's police. In a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDevitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said "America could sharply reduce crime" if government invested more in these Right Start programs.

Asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in kids by a 3-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Nine out of ten warned that if we don't boost these investments, "we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

High Scope's Perry Preschool, for example, saved \$148,000 in crime costs alone for every child served. Yet these right-start investments are so under-funded that they can't begin to serve more than a small portion of the kids who need them.

Don't get me wrong. No one feels more strongly than I that we need to get dangerous criminals off the streets and behind bars.

But if we don't invest in programs that help children become caring citizens instead of brutal criminals, we will all pay an unfathomable cost in broken lives and broken hearts.

That's why police, prosecutors and crime survivors from all over America, in-

cluding Oakland County Police Chief Joe Samuels and Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, joined recently in launching an important new anti-crime offensive called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign.

Time, energy and tax dollars

Our message is simple: We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our time, energy and our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable children so that they never become America's most wanted adults. Anything else is too little too late.

That's why, when I realized that California's poorly written version of the three-strikes law was locking up people who weren't dangerous, and was taking resources away from badly needed investments in kids that could stop far more crime, I began to speak out against it.

It is why I'll vote for Proposition 217, which would restore a small portion of the funds that are needed if we are to provide kids with adequate schools and social services, and Proposition 210, to raise the minimum wage so that young people will know that hard work pays, and that they don't need to turn to crime to make ends meet.

It's also the reason that Fight Crime: Invest in Kids has called on candidates to tell the voters what it will do to fight crime before anyone gets hurt, by boosting investment programs for kids.

If voters want to know who's really going to do something about crime, they need to ask which candidates are ready not just to punish criminals after people have been hurt, but also to make the investments in kids that could have stopped so many of those crimes from happening in the first place.

Candidates who ignore that question are ignoring our most effective weapons against crime.

KLAAS founded the Klaas Foundation for Children after his 12-year-old daughter, Polly, was abducted and murdered.



THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

FRIDAY, NOV. 5, 1996

The Atlanta Journal

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TODAY'S NEWS

Fighting crime upfront

By Gordon and Elaine Rondeau

Thursday marked the second grim anniversary of the murder of our daughter Renee, a talented, caring woman whose life was cut short at 30. As we struggle still to move on with our lives, we hear candidates in federal, state and local elections bluster about how tough they'll be on criminals. But most candidates are silent about our most powerful weapons in the battle against crime: the proven programs that help kids get the right start so they become responsible, compassionate adults instead of criminals.

Politicians who focus only on punishments are cheating Americans out of the solutions that could have prevented Renee's death and so many others.

It's no secret what prevents crime: programs such as Head Start, parenting education, good schools, after-school programs and job training. For example:

■ A study in Ypsilanti, Mich., shows that toddlers randomly assigned to participate in a pre-school program and receive weekly home visits were 80 percent less likely than a control group to become chronic law-breakers as adults.

■ The Quantum Opportunities Program, an after-school dropout prevention program in five cities, has found that counseling, academic and life-skills support, community service and financial incentives reduce the risk of arrest during high school years by 50 percent.

■ And in Savannah, the Uhuru program, providing family services, mentoring and education for high-risk 11- to 13-year-olds, has significantly decreased delinquency.

If children begin to have emotional problems or get into trouble, counseling, drug treatment and other programs can save them from becoming hardened criminals.

Crime prevention investments even save tax dollars: Steve Barnett, an economist at Rutgers University, estimates that the Ypsilanti preschool project saves an average \$150,000 per child in subsequent crime costs alone. Mark Cohen, a professor at Vanderbilt University, estimates that saving one high-risk child from a life of crime saves at least \$1.5 million.

If ever our moral obligations coincided with our self-interest, this is it.

All of us should volunteer to help in our communities. But that can't relieve government of its responsibility to do all it can to fight crime by playing an appropriate role to ensure that children get the help they need to become responsible citizens.

Ask America's police chiefs. In a recent poll by Northeastern University, nine out of 10 chiefs agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if we invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start." By a 3-1 ratio, police chiefs picked increasing investments in programs for chil-

dren as the most effective long-term crime-fighting strategy when compared with such options as trying more juveniles as adults or hiring more police.

We must challenge our political leaders to act now. We must call on politicians to skip the sound bites and tell voters what they'll do to boost the investments in children that are our most powerful weapons against crime.

We need to vote for candidates who 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. Anything else is too little, too late.

Gordon and Elaine Rondeau, who live in Marietta, are founders of Action America: Murder Must End Now (AAMMEN) and serve on the national advisory committee of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

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Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

September 5, 1997

Ms. Jennifer Klein
Senior Policy Analyst
Domestic Policy Council
The White House, West Wing, 2nd floor
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Jennifer,

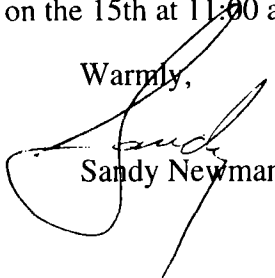
I'm looking forward to meeting you and brainstorming together
about the upcoming conference.

As promised, I've enclosed a packet being distributed this morning
at the Early Childhood Strike Force Roundtable. Among other things, it
includes:

- a) some of our op eds and a few of the other press clips on our
recent media events.
- b) graphs and text summarizing some of the evidence on the crime
prevention impact of early childhood programs. (We actually may be
issuing a more detailed report on this subject before the end of October.)
- c) The statement Winston-Salem Police Chief George Sweat
delivered this morning at the roundtable.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 15th at 11:00 at your office.

Warmly,


Sandy Newman

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Media Director
John W. Bartlett

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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

This story ran in scores of newspapers accross the country on May 26, 1997. A circulation of over 100,000.

44/6 North Carolina can cut crime by investing in its children

**BY MITCHELL BROWN
AND SYLVESTER DAUGHTRY**
INVEST IN KIDS

You say you've had enough of violence and fear in our communities?

Well, we have news for you: We can dramatically reduce crime. But not if we focus only on punishing crime on the "back end," after people have been hurt. That's fighting with one hand tied behind our backs.

We are as determined as ever to put dangerous criminals behind bars. But those of us who have been on the front lines know that winning the war on crime will require cutting the enemy's key supply line: the ability to turn kids into criminals.

Our most powerful anti-crime weapons are the programs that help kids get the right start so that they'll grow up to be responsible adults. North Carolina has the opportunity now to strengthen one of its most effective anti-crime measures ever: the Maternal Outreach Worker program.

The Maternal Outreach Worker program, or MOW, offers at-risk mothers — usually unmarried teens — the advice of a parenting coach from the community to help them learn to raise healthy children with the values and skills to become responsible adults.

Across the country, programs that offer quality child care, provide coaching for at-risk new parents who want help, and prevent abuse and neglect have dramatically cut crime.

■ In Ypsilanti, Michigan, the High-Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool project showed that toddlers randomly assigned to participate in a preschool program and receive weekly maternal outreach home visits were 80 percent less likely than a control group to become chronic lawbreakers as adults.

■ The Syracuse University

family development study, which looked at quality child care and maternal outreach for children until the age of 5, demonstrated that, 10 years later, the risk of these children becoming delinquents was reduced by 90 percent.

■ The National Institute of Justice found that children who are abused or neglected are twice as likely to become chronic lawbreakers when they become adults. The good news is that voluntary maternal outreach programs are proven to cut the risk of abuse and neglect by 50-75 percent.

These programs save lives and money. The Perry Preschool project found it had saved an average of \$150,000 per participant in crime cost savings alone, and maternal outreach programs have been shown to pay for themselves in reduced welfare and child protective services cost within four years — with tens of thousands of dollars in crime savings following year after year.

Our legislature's bipartisan Child Fatality Task Force proposed expanding the Maternal Outreach Worker program by \$3.2 million to offer services to 3,000 more working mothers of kids under 3. That recommendation is running into trouble.

Maternal outreach gives at-risk mothers who request it the chance to learn the parenting skills that others may take for granted. And it's about protecting us and our loved ones, because when we refuse to provide this coaching, we all pay the price.

Raleigh Police Chief Mitchell Brown is co-chair of Fight Crime: Invest In Kids North Carolina. Greensboro Police Chief Sylvester Daughtry Jr. is a member of the group's advisory committee and a past president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

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DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Bacon's

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 lines of the 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 par-

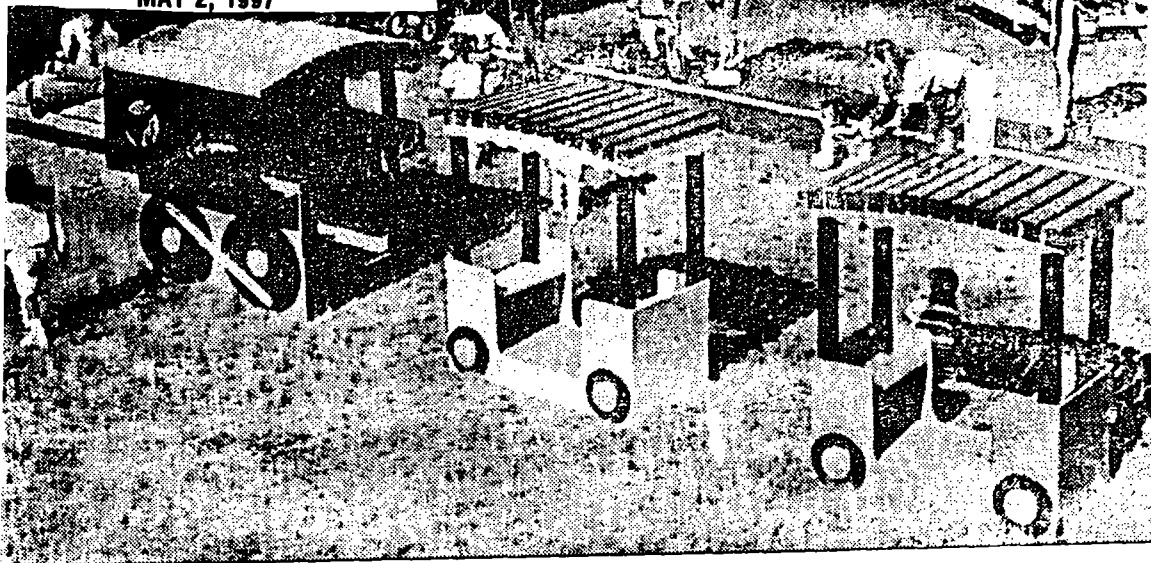
ticipant in crime costs alone — plus additional savings on reduced social services, welfare and other costs. Vanderbilt University economist Mark Cohen estimates that every at-risk child we turn away from a life of crime saves taxpayers at least \$1.5 million. So the real question is: "Can we afford 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.



Studies show that \$1 invested in early childhood services today saves \$7.16 in jail-related costs

Invest in kids— or pay the price



■ *Law enforcement officials agree: Programs that give kids a better start help reduce violent crime.*

By Cindy Richards

▼▼ under 4 what they fear most for their children's future, more than half of the parents said they fear their child will become the victim of violent crime.

When the Gallup Organization asks the general public what is the most important problem facing the country, crime and violence consistently ranks No. 1.

When Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research asked chiefs of police how to reduce violent crime, more than 90 percent said government ought to invest in programs that help parents and give children a better start on life. That same 90 percent also agreed that if we don't pay now, we'll pay more later in crime, welfare and other costs.

"We've got 39 to 40 million children [age] 10 and under who are entering into the crime-prone years. If everything remains static, we can't build prisons fast enough," said Chicago Police Supt. Matt Rodriguez.

He likens ignoring the problem to the United States being warned in 1935 that Pearl Harbor would be attacked in 1941 and choosing to do nothing about it.

"It's ridiculous to accept [a juvenile crime wave] as inevitable," said Rodriguez.

He joined a host of law enforcement officials and crime victims this week to endorse legislation that would pump more money into early childhood education, high-quality day care, health care for kids and help for struggling parents.

The ad-hoc group, which calls itself Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, cites studies that show \$1 invested in early

childhood intervention can save \$7.16 in costs later in jail, justice system and victim expenses. Yet taxpayers urge their legislators to build more prisons or get tough on criminals while complaining about proposals to raise taxes for education or to ensure infants get a good start on life.

nois—the ones that would expand funding for subsidized day care and aid to struggling parents—are locked up in the Senate Rules Committee. The other two are expected to have committee hearings next week.

Helping kids may sound like a Mom and apple pie issue, but don't be fooled. Each of these bills has staunch opponents who are targeting the proposals on both moral and financial grounds. Opponents say they are concerned about the content of the preschool curriculum and the lessons it might impart to vulnerable children—those same children who enter school without knowing red from green, let alone being able to spell their own name. Others simply say they want the government to spend less money so middle-class families can live on one income, freeing one parent to stay home with

the kids full time.

That's a great goal, for those two-parent families that choose it and can find a way to afford it. But we no longer live in a one-size-fits-all America.

There are 52,000 children living in substitute care under the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. There are single parents. There are two-parent families in which both need to work. And there are children who need love, support and learning—regardless of the choices their parents make.

Conservatives like to deride the cliché that it takes a village to raise a child—at the same time they pine for the good old days when neighbors looked out for neighbors. Well, the neighbors are looking the other way, and the village is now peopled by the government, like it or not.

Call your state senators and representatives. Tell them to spend your money more wisely, by investing \$1 in children when they're young—so we won't have to spend \$7.16 repairing the damage they do later.

Cindy Richards is deputy editorial page editor of the Sun-Times. E-mail: crichard@suntimes.com

This Associated Press story ran in scores of newspapers across the county on July 26, 1996.

New group wants government to fight crime by investing in children

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's easier to form a child's character than to reform an adult criminal, says a new group created to lobby the government to spend more on children's programs.

Investing more in these programs could push down the crime rate, which is being inflated by increases in youth violence, according to Sanford Newman, who today announced the formation of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

One of the nonprofit group's top officials is Marc Klaas, who is awaiting the sentencing of the man convicted of abducting and killing his 12-year-old daughter, Polly Klaas, in 1993.

A jury in San Jose, Calif., has been hearing evidence in the penalty phase of the trial of Richard Allen Davis. He could be sentenced to life in prison or death.

"Polly's killer may soon be sentenced to death," Klaas said in a statement. "Neither that penalty nor anything else can bring Polly back. But we can save thousands of children and adults — and spare their families unimaginable heartbreak — if we invest now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start."

Head Start has proven itself as good for infants and toddlers, the group said, also praising

programs designed to prevent child abuse, teach parenting skills, improve schools and provide mentoring and after-school activities.

"There is no substitute for tough law enforcement today. But neither is there any excuse for failing to invest today in proven strategies to prevent crime tomorrow," said Matt Rodriguez, Chicago police superintendent and a member of the group's advisory committee.

"If we're ready to guarantee a criminal a tax-provided room and board in a jail cell, shouldn't we be just as ready to guarantee innocent kids space in a Head Start program or after-school program?" Rodriguez said.

A nationwide survey reveals that most police chiefs agree, the group said. Ninety-two percent of 548 survey respondents said they believed putting more government resources into children's programs would reduce crime.

Nine out of 10 agreed with the statement: "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 group said.

"Locking up dangerous criminals is a necessary defense, but you can never win a war if

you're only fighting defense," said former Attorney General Elliot Richardson, another advisory committee member. "When we can take the offensive by investing in early childhood and youth development, we can win the war against crime and make our communities safe for our families."

Newman said he was moved to start the organization after awaking one night to find an intruder crouching between his bed and his newborn daughter's crib.

He said Fight Crime will form state and local advisory committees and begin recruiting thousands of members and volunteers to move its campaign forward.

As its first project, the group will join a panel of experts in criminology, child development and law enforcement to study and make a set of policy recommendations for federal and state officials. They plan to complete a report by the end of September.

The group envisions operating on donations from individual supporters. Its start-up support came from various foundations, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Stern Family Fund and the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia.



THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

FRIDAY, NOV. 5, 1993

The Atlanta Journal

Covers Dixie Like the Dea

TODAY'S NEWS

Fighting crime upfront

By Gordon and Elaine Rondeau

Thursday marked the second grim anniversary of the murder of our daughter Renee, a talented, caring woman whose life was cut short at 30. As we struggle still to move on with our lives, we hear candidates in federal, state and local elections bluster about how tough they'll be on criminals. But most candidates are silent about our most powerful weapons in the battle against crime: the proven programs that help kids get the right start so they become responsible, compassionate adults instead of criminals.

Politicians who focus only on punishments are cheating Americans out of the solutions that could have prevented Renee's death and so many others.

It's no secret what prevents crime: programs such as Head Start, parenting education, good schools, after-school programs and job training. For example:

■ A study in Ypsilanti, Mich., shows that toddlers randomly assigned to participate in a pre-school program and receive weekly home visits were 80 percent less likely than a control group to become chronic law-breakers as adults.

■ The Quantum Opportunities Program, an after-school dropout prevention program in five cities, has found that counseling, academic and life-skills support, community service and financial incentives reduce the risk of arrest during high school years by 50 percent.

■ And in Savannah, the Uhuru program, providing family services, mentoring and education for high-risk 11- to 13-year-olds, has significantly decreased delinquency.

If children begin to have emotional problems or get into trouble, counseling, drug treatment and other programs can save them from becoming hardened criminals.

Crime prevention investments even save tax dollars: Steve Barnett, an economist at Rutgers University, estimates that the Ypsilanti preschool project saves an average \$150,000 per child in subsequent crime costs alone. Mark Cohen, a professor at Vanderbilt University, estimates that saving one high-risk child from a life of crime saves at least \$1.5 million.

If ever our moral obligations coincided with our self-interest, this is it.

All of us should volunteer to help in our communities. But that can't relieve government of its responsibility to do all it can to fight crime by playing an appropriate role to ensure that children get the help they need to become responsible citizens.

Ask America's police chiefs. In a recent poll by Northeastern University, nine out of 10 chiefs agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if we invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start." By a 3-1 ratio, police chiefs picked increasing investments in programs for chil-

dren as the most effective long-term crime-fighting strategy when compared with such options as trying more juveniles as adults or hiring more police.

We must challenge our political leaders to act now. We must call on politicians to skip the sound bites and tell voters what they'll do to boost the investments in children that are our most powerful weapons against crime.

We need to vote for candidates who 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. Anything else is too little, too late.

Gordon and Elaine Rondeau, who live in Marietta, are founders of Action America: Murder Must End Now (AAMMEN) and serve on the national advisory committee of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

Union-Tribune

OPINION

■ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Fighting crime by investing in kids

By Marc Klaas

My daughter Polly has made a lot of headlines in this campaign season. While I cannot support those who use her tragic death to distort an opponent's record, I do very much want Polly's death to help save other lives, and I know Polly would have felt that was the best memorial we could give her. In fact, the last words she said as she was led out of her bedroom at knifepoint were a plea that her abductor not hurt anyone else.

But if Polly's death is to help protect others, we need to go beyond talking about the death penalty, or even about prison sentences and focus on the most critical steps our communities and our nation can take to protect all of our children.

Giving them the right start

As hard as I fought to see that Polly's killer received the death sentence he deserves, that won't bring Polly back. But we can save thousands of children and adults if we invest now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start and keep them from becoming criminals in the first place.

The plain truth is that the most powerful weapons we have against crime are programs like Head Start, parenting education, mentoring, good schools and after-school programs, and job training — programs that can dramatically reduce crime by helping kids become productive citizens instead of brutal criminals. For example:

- High/Scope Educational Research Foundation's Perry Preschool study combined a high-quality Head Start-style program for 3- and 4-year-olds with weekly home visits to coach their parents. Due to lack of funding, High Scope randomly chose half the children who applied.

Twenty-three years later, its researchers found that those kids denied the Head Start/parenting education program were five times as likely to have become chronic lawbreakers.

- Other studies show that help for older kids can also significantly improve their — and our — chances. For example, when the Quantum Opportunities Program had high school kids participate in community service and gave them counseling, academic help and financial incentives, it cut the risk of arrest by 50 percent.

If you don't trust the studies, ask America's police. In a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDevitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said "America could sharply reduce crime" if government invested more in these Right Start programs.

Asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in kids by a 3-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Nine out of ten warned that if we don't boost these investments, "we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

High Scope's Perry Preschool, for example, saved \$148,000 in crime costs alone for every child served. Yet these right-start investments are so under-funded that they can't begin to serve more than a small portion of the kids who need them.

Don't get me wrong. No one feels more strongly than I that we need to get dangerous criminals off the streets and behind bars.

But if we don't invest in programs that help children become caring citizens instead of brutal criminals, we will all pay an unfathomable cost in broken lives and broken hearts.

That's why police, prosecutors and crime survivors from all over America, in-

cluding Oakland County Police Chief Joe Samuels and Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, joined recently in launching an important new anti-crime offensive called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign.

Time, energy and tax dollars

Our message is simple: We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our time, energy and our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable children so that they never become America's most wanted adults. Anything else is too little too late.

That's why, when I realized that California's poorly written version of the three-strikes law was locking up people who weren't dangerous, and was taking resources away from badly needed investments in kids that could stop far more crime, I began to speak out against it.

It is why I'll vote for Proposition 217, which would restore a small portion of the funds that are needed if we are to provide kids with adequate schools and social services, and Proposition 210, to raise the minimum wage so that young people will know that hard work pays, and that they don't need to turn to crime to make ends meet.

It's also the reason that Fight Crime: Invest in Kids has called on candidates to tell the voters what it will do to fight crime before anyone gets hurt, by boosting investment programs for kids.

If voters want to know who's really going to do something about crime, they need to ask which candidates are ready not just to punish criminals after people have been hurt, but also to make the investments in kids that could have stopped so many of those crimes from happening in the first place.

Candidates who ignore that question are ignoring our most effective weapons against crime.

BOSTON HERALD

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-fronted 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.

The Charlotte Observer

METRO EDITION

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1996

The economics of crime: Pay now or pay later

Prosecutors know America will never win the war on crime until it invests more in getting kids the right start.

By **PETER GILCHRIST**
Special to The Observer

C rime is a major issue in federal, state and local elections across the country.

Most candidates spare no effort to prove they are the "toughest in their district." But few bother to tell us what they will do to strengthen our most powerful weapons against crime — the proven investments that help kids get the right start in life so they grow up to be contributing citizens instead of criminals.

This month, police, prosecutors and crime survivors from around the country, fed up with political slogans, said "Enough!" The crime

fighters have joined together to launch a nonpartisan campaign called Fight Crime: Invest In Kids and to write to all the nation's candidates.

Of course, they are determined to lock up dangerous criminals. But here's their challenge to candidates: What will you do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime — like parenting education, Head Start, child abuse prevention, after-school programs, and programs to keep kids from falling behind in school?

What makes us think programs like these prevent crime? First-hand, hard-nosed, real-world experience — and scientific evidence like this:

■ High/Scope's Perry Preschool randomly selected half of a group of vulnerable kids to receive a high

quality Head Start-type program when they were 3 to 4 years old, with weekly at-home coaching for their parents. A look at arrest records 23 years after the toddlers finished the program found that those who had not received the services were five times as likely to have more than four arrests.

■ Syracuse University's Family Development Research Program shows a 90 percent cut in delinquency resulting from early childhood programs.

■ The Quantum Opportunities Program showed that involving vulnerable high school kids in community service and providing them with counseling and with academic and other support cut in half the number who wound up arrested.

Last year, our office dealt with 9,000 felonies and sent a lot of people to prison — enough to tell me that street criminals and drug dealers are recruiting new troops for their army about as fast as we can get them locked up.

Prosecutors know America will

never win the war on crime until it invests more in getting kids the right start. We can pay now or pay later.

Police chiefs agree. Chief Dennis Nowicki says, "Shortchanging prevention efforts shortchanges public safety. We need to be as ready to provide tutoring or an after-school program for innocent kids as we are to guarantee criminals room and board in a jail cell."

Raleigh Police Chief Mitchell Brown says that when politicians ignore these right-start investments, "they are throwing away the weapons that could help us get the upper hand against crime." Greensboro Chief Sylvester Daughtry says, "We have to keep putting dangerous criminals behind bars. But we have to fight just as hard to keep kids from becoming criminals in the first place, and that means getting all kids the early childhood care, the good schools, and the youth programs they need."

In a recent poll, 9 out of 10 police chiefs agreed that "America could

sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs for kids," and warned that if we do not increase those investments now, "we will pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

Despite all the evidence, Congress has so shortchanged Head Start that it can serve only a third of our most vulnerable 3 and 4 year olds. Other programs serve even smaller fractions of the kids who need them. We can be proud of North Carolina's Smart Start community-based initiatives for kids but far more remains to be done.

When you cast your votes, ask which candidates are ready to fight crime from the front end by investing in today's children rather than only from the back end after someone has been hurt. If voters want to know who is really going to do something about crime, that is the key question to ask.

Peter Gilchrist is Mecklenburg County district attorney. Write him at c/o The Observer, P.O. Box 30308, Charlotte, NC 28230-0308.

David Broder's column about FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ran in more than 140 newspapers nationwide including *The Washington Post*, *Atlanta Journal & Constitution*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Seattle Times* & *Post Intelligencer*, *San Diego Union Tribune*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Oregonian*, *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, and many others.

David Broder

Pseudo-tough talk about juvenile crime

2838

WASHINGTON — It is a fascinating paradox of politics that the further removed an official is from the front lines of the war on crime, the tougher he talks.

That is particularly true of violence by juveniles, a problem that Americans rightly find alarming.

When Republican candidate Bob Dole talked about it in a radio address earlier this month, he promised to crack down on these "merciless criminals capable of committing the most vicious acts for the most trivial reasons: a pair of sneakers or a football jersey."

When President Clinton responded a few days later, he spoke in ominous tones of the fact that in the last two decades, "The number of homicides by teens who have guns has tripled."

BOTH SAID prosecutors should have much more leeway to try juveniles as adults.

"If a teen-ager commits a crime as an adult," Clinton said, "he should be prosecuted as an adult."

Before leaving the Senate, Dole introduced legislation to allow adult prosecution of people as young as 13 and the death penalty at 16.

But when a cross section of police chiefs was surveyed by Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy on the effectiveness of four approaches to reducing crime and violence, the least favored option was the one candidates Dole and Clinton have endorsed — and many governors already have put into effect.

Only 14 percent of the 540 chiefs chose the policy of trying more juveniles as adults and sentencing more of them to adult prisons.

About the same number said hiring additional police officers would be the



What works is early work with kids.

best tool and a somewhat larger group said the priority should be making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.

The overwhelming majority — three out of every four big city chiefs and three out of five in the overall sample — said the best way to reduce crime and violence is to increase investment in programs that help children and youths get a good start.

These findings were reported at a Washington press briefing last week by a new advocacy group calling itself "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids," run by an activist named Sanford Newman. Participants included police chiefs of Chicago and Buffalo, former chiefs of New York City, Detroit and Washington and the head of the largest police organization, the Fraternal Order of Police.

A cynic might argue that the chiefs — who are, after all, mostly appointees — have just found new rhetoric to support old programs that pump federal money into the cities.

But the cynical view will not withstand the sincerity of people like Gil Kerlikowske of Buffalo, who complained, "The preventive programs are getting lost because everyone (in politics) is trying to grow hair on his chest in this election year."

What he means is illustrated by the juvenile crime bill Dole introduced. It would allocate \$100 million a year for prevention programs run by communi-

ty-based groups, including religious organizations, and four times that amount for investigating, prosecuting and jailing juvenile offenders. The whole \$500 million would be paid for by cutting "social spending provisions" of the 1994 crime bill, including after-school and family counseling programs.

James Alan Fox, the Northeastern University center's director, presented studies from criminology literature showing that intensive early intervention can reduce the later delinquency and criminal behavior of at-risk youths by as much as 80 percent. In Lansing, Mich., when police, schools and social service agencies began youth programs in a new community center, the number of crimes in nearby neighborhoods was cut from 156 in 1990 to 40 in 1993.

I was skeptical about these case studies. But John J. Dilulio Jr., of Princeton, a scholar whose work is much admired by conservatives and who was not part of this group, told me, "The more scientific the study, the stronger the link and the more positive the results. We now can say with some confidence that programs that get responsible adults involved with at-risk kids can reduce later delinquency and crime."

THAT IS of enormous importance, because teen-agers have the highest arrest rate for violent offense and in the next decade, the number of teen-agers will explode. There are now 39 million children under age 10, the most since the 1950s.

Prosecuting teen criminals as adults may satisfy political pressures, but we better be serious about preventing their younger brothers from becoming criminals — or we are in big trouble.

Washington Post Writers Group