

FOIA MARKER

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National Service

MILLERSVILLE
UNIVERSITY

March 11, 1993

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The social work department of Millersville University applauds your interest in developing a national youth service program, and we support efforts to allow both undergraduate and graduate students to leave their educational experiences with realistic ways to unencumber debt.

We write to you of one concern. According to media, you are encouraging volunteers to become police officers, social workers, and teachers, some even prior to attending higher education. We want to call attention to your nomenclature. Perhaps you should encourage volunteers to serve as community development volunteers, human service assistants, tutors and teacher aides. Social work, at least, is a profession that requires competence developed through a coherent plan of study and practice. One cannot at age 18 or 23 simply volunteer to be a professional.

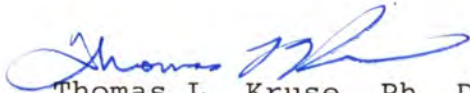
One implication of your nomenclature is that it could confuse volunteers with the graduates of programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. CSWE accredits over 350 baccalaureate social work programs to prepare entry level professional social workers. We are concerned that volunteers might be equated with our graduates, who are trained in theory and field practice.

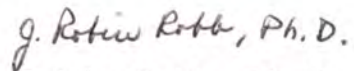
We also think that your program needs to take into account issues that we face as we place students into field learning experiences. They cannot simply be set loose. They need orientation, training, and supervision on an ongoing basis. This is quite costly to agencies and institutions. You do not want a new public bureaucracy, but you may need to make grants to agencies in the voluntary sector to upgrade their

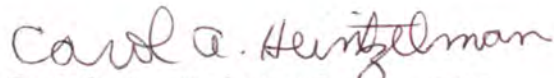
volunteer programs to absorb your volunteers. The voluntary section is starving financially and surely cannot absorb the impact of 1000s, even 100s, without assistance.


There is much creative energy to be tapped among students, and your proposal is a start.


Sincerely,


Thomas L. Kruse, Ph. D.
Professor & Chair


J. Robin Robb, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor


Carol A. Heintzelman, DSW
Professor


Joanne Hessmiller-Trego, MSW
Assistant Professor


Richard H. Fulmer, Ph.D.
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Kathy Neff
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jdH
cc: Joseph A. Caputo, Ph.D.,
President
Christopher C. Dahl, Ph.D.,
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The White House
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Washington, D.C. 20500

