

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 4-8-97

To: Mike McCurry
Lorie McHugh

From: The Staff Secretary

chason

4-8-97

To Donskuid for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

coordinate w/Press?

cc. Lorie McHugh & Mike
McCurry
C. McHugh
yes ☒
no ☐



March 20, 1997

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

First, let me express my sorrow over the disaster that has struck your home state. I have had the great pleasure of being an Arkansan for about two years now and I consider Arkadelphia, Arkansas my home. I share your concern for these people and this city.

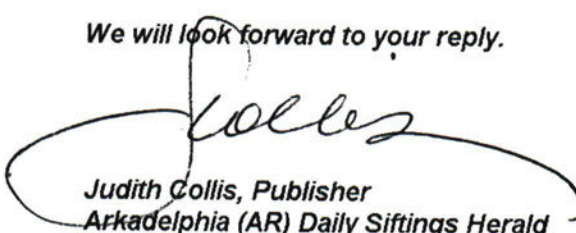
I am writing you in regard to your March 4 visit to Arkadelphia, Arkansas. I am the publisher of the Daily Siftings Herald, the only daily newspaper in Clark County. From the beginning of this disaster the people of Arkadelphia have counted on us to provide them with news and information they could trust. Our staff has worked almost around the clock to provide this service to the people of our city.

Imagine our shock when our editor--from the very city where the disaster took place--was barred from your walk-around tour. We jumped through every hoop. Nothing was left undone on our part that might have prevented The Daily Siftings from being included. We understood all arrangements were made. Ms. Green, of your media office, assured our editor that he would be in the pool that accompanied you on your tour.

If this visit was indeed about Arkadelphia and its tornado victims, who better to tell those people about your visit than the newspaper and staff they know and trust? Because we are a small-town newspaper, we do not have the capability of disseminating this story and accompanying photographs far and wide. I dislike thinking this was why we were barred, but it seems the only logical explanation. When we learned that the city directors who have worked tirelessly at relief efforts since the tornado struck were also not included, we were left with the impression that this trip to Arkadelphia was nothing more than a photo-opportunity and political opportunism.

I think our editor, Mr. Steve Fellers, and this newspaper deserve an apology. I also think more consideration should be given to local media in the future when you make visits to the sites of disasters.

We will look forward to your reply.


Judith Collis, Publisher
Arkadelphia (AR) Daily Siftings Herald

cc: Steve Fellers
Steve Tetreault, Bureau Chief-Donrey Washington
files

4-8-97

Send to Doyland

Yes ✓

No

Let me see
first
Paul

Coordinate w/ WSC

Yes ✓
No



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57 APR 21 1997

April 4, 1997

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*Nobel Laureate

Dear President Clinton —

The enclosed article entitled "A Chair for Everyone at Humanity's Table" was inspired by your Inaugural Address and actions by King Hussein. I thought you might be interested in reading it.

Walter Capps telephoned me to express his enthusiasm for the idea. I'm hoping that Walter will introduce a resolution in Congress concerning it.

I know that you and Mrs. Clinton are deeply interested in education and the creative capacities of human beings. My proposal for a celebration of creativity may be helpful in encouraging all of us to be more aware of the wonderful capacities we have.

All the best to you and Mrs. Clinton,
always —

Frank Kelly

Enclosure:

"A Chair for Everyone at Humanity's Table"

To President Clinton — This article was inspired by your Inaugural address as well as by King Hussein's action. I know that your compassion extends to every member of the human family.

NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

— Frank R. Kelly

SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997

A chair for everyone at humanity's table

By FRANK K. KELLY

By kneeling at the feet of grieving Israeli families whose daughters had been killed by a Jordanian soldier, King Hussein of Jordan demonstrated the compassion that goes beyond all boundaries.

He kissed them and asked to be regarded as a member of each family. To the parents of one girl he said: "I feel like I have lost a child."

In the wars of this bloody century, millions of children have been slaughtered. All of them belonged to the great human family. All of us have been wounded by those losses, although we may not realize it. We are all related to one another — and the King of Jordan brought that home to us in a powerful way.

The time has come for the human family to celebrate its unity, its diversity, its tremendous gifts, its abilities in many fields, its infinite capacities for compassion and creativity. Although this is an age of terrible tragedies and immense sufferings, it is also an age of unprecedented strides in many areas.

I believe we should consider "A Day of Celebration for Humanity" — an annual festival to remind us of the marvelous capacities of human beings.

There are many acts of kindness, many outpourings of love and devotion, many works of art emerging from the minds and souls of those who share the DNA molecules that make us human.

Let us salute one another, let us bow down as the King of Jordan did to comfort the afflicted ones among us, let us blow horns around the world, let us dance and be grateful for all the blessings we have, for the hopes we have, for the signs of love we can see everywhere if we open our eyes.

In the midst of our celebration, we will not forget that we have to help one another, care for one another, extend our hands to those who need food and shelter and encouragement. We will take everyone into the circle of humanity — and leave no one out.

Each year — perhaps on New Year's Day — there should be a 24-hour, worldwide remembrance of the achievements of people around the Earth. The resources of the Information Age are available now to bring together all of us in that commemoration.

Artists, musicians, film producers, writers, dancers, singers and composers, sculptors and painters, television and radio communicators, could be asked to give their services for a "Festival of the Human Family."

It could be organized by a Committee for Humanity, formed by representatives of the arts and sciences. Jacques Cousteau, the oceanographer; Yehudi Menuhin, the violinist; King Hussein of Jordan; and Maya Angelou, the poet, might be asked to serve as honorary chairpersons.

The committee could include leaders from all countries represented at the United Nations, journalists and educators from every continent, legislators and judges, business executives, presidents of trade unions, philosophers and members of all religions, children of all ages, women from many backgrounds, and Nobel Prize winners. Its headquarters might be in Geneva, where many international organizations have offices.

On the day of celebration, the creative attainments and highest qualities of compassion and courage demonstrated by human beings would be presented in global broadcasts — perhaps with introductory statements by George Lucas and Steven Spielberg, vision-

ary film producers, and Arthur Clarke, author of "2001," on their hopes for humanity in the coming century.

On that day, the noblest aspirations of human beings would be hailed. The finest works of the human spirit would shine around the world. The day would be an occasion of renewed confidence for every human person on this planet — every member of the huge family which now includes millions of mysterious beings. It would depict the crises through which humanity has passed in its epic journey from the seas to the stars. All the peaks of human experience would be recognized and acclaimed.

The day might end with the singing of the "Ode to Joy" which concludes Beethoven's Ninth Symphony — with choirs from every nation, with voices being heard from every part of the beautiful planet on which humanity arose.

Such a day could give us new ways of seeing that Thomas Merton was right when he said: "It is a glorious destiny to be a human being."

We were created with divine sparks that cannot be extinguished. We were shaped by a mind which gave us a sense of belonging to the universe. With the creative power shared with us by that loving mind, we can find the ways out of our tremendous problems and overcome the dangers that beset us in this time of testing.

In his inaugural address in January of this year, President Clinton urged us to remember that the greatest progress we have yet to make is in the human heart. He referred to Martin Luther King's high dream of human equality and he declared: "King's dream was the American dream. His quest is our quest."

King's vision was more than an American vision. It was a vision for the whole human family. It is time to revive that vision — and to join with people everywhere to show what can be done by the members of that awesome stream of people moving forward together.

I urge the U.S. Congress to adopt a non-partisan resolution calling for "A Day of Celebration" and urging legislators and other leaders of all nations to join Americans in making that day a worldwide day for human unity. I urge the president and the executives of all countries to give their support to that proposal.

The time has come to take a giant step for humanity!

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4-8-97

Carol -

For Status !

[Signature]

4-8-97

Send to  First Lady

Yes —

No —

C

March 27, 1997
391 East Deerpath
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Ms. Betty Currie
Office of the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Currie,

My name is Mary Sanders. I am the producer and host of a live television call-in program called **Mom Chat**. The program is produced at the studios of US Cable in Waukegan, Illinois, and airs in most of Lake County, Illinois. Local origination programs such as: **Ask The Mayor**, a monthly one-on-one interview with local area mayors; **Lake County Live**, Illinois' only live cable news, weather and sports program until **The Chicago Tribune's CLTV** began; and **Mom Chat**, are examples of the type of community awareness programming that is the focus of US Cable.

Mom Chat began airing in 1992 as a weekly program during my pregnancy with the first of my three children. Each edition presently airs four times a week for one month, which provides our viewers with many opportunities to watch. The program is an informal chat where I endeavor to have the themes and guests understood and approachable by the viewers. For more background information about **Mom Chat** and me, please note the articles I have included from **Today's Chicago Woman Magazine** and **The Lake Forest Journal**.

The reason I am writing to you is that I know that your roots are in Lake County. Your commitment to family, as described by President Clinton in the June 16, 1996 edition of **The Chicago Tribune**, has encouraged me to ask you to forward the enclosed request and information to the First Lady.

I appreciate the consideration of your time to read this letter and the enclosed material. Please help me to forward the message throughout Lake County on the importance of children and family to the future of our community and country. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, the letter to the First Lady or the other material I have enclosed, please contact me at (847) 234-5177.

Sincerely,


Mary C. Sanders

Enclosures

March 27, 1997
391 East Deerpath
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

My name is Mary Sanders. I am the producer and host of a live television call-in program called ***Mom Chat***. The program is taped at US Cable in Waukegan, Illinois. ***Mom Chat*** began airing in 1992 as a weekly program during my pregnancy with the first of my three children. Each edition presently airs four times a week for a month throughout most of Lake County, which provides our viewers with many opportunities to watch.

I am writing to you because of your long-standing recognition and dedication to children and families. ***It Takes a Village*** and ***The Unique Voice of Hillary Rodham Clinton***, both of which I have just read, underline your commitment to the realm of children, education, and family. President Clinton's commitment to education and children in his State of the Union Address was a welcome recognition that children are our greatest natural resource. Nearly a half century ago the GI Bill enhanced the lives of its direct beneficiaries, the nation and the world. A "GI Bill" for children would be one of the Clinton Administration's foremost legacies and would benefit the world well into the 21st Century.

In this regard, I have a special request that I hope you will consider. The theme of the June 25, 1997 edition of ***Mom Chat*** will be the essence of your book, ***It Takes a Village***. Your participation as one of my guests would emphasize your support for community consciousness and conversation about the well-being of children. Scheduled guests include Bernice Weissbourd and Harold Jensen. In addition, Irving Harris may join us. All are long-standing advocates of children, family, and early childhood education—in both word and deed.

In addition, I know you will have fun doing the program. It is an informal chat, where I endeavor to make the themes and guests approachable by the viewers. There is nothing that can energize and encourage a person more than lively conversation with interesting caring people.

Bernice Weissbourd, the founder of Family Focus, is advocating children's concerns in ***Parents Magazine***. Among many other commitments, she is teaching early childhood development at the University of Chicago. Harold Jensen, a family friend, is a former chairperson of Family Focus. He is a highly regarded business person who understands and promotes the well being of families and children as future benefits to

the world of business and this country. Irving Harris is an eighty-six year old children's advocate who defines the term 'liberal' in the highest form.

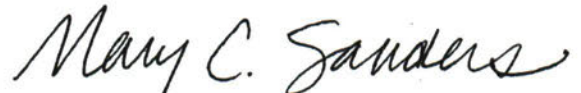
While I was reading your book I felt a real kinship towards you and your family. I too have an Aunt Belle. Her name is Eileen Green. She was an early childhood neighbor who quietly became my champion. She is now 92 years old and I named my oldest child after her. I understand your gratitude.

From my vantage point, it seems so far away that someday my little Eileen will be grown-up and off to college. Since the program is a mom chat, I would like to know how you have prepared yourself and Chelsea for her life away from home. The informality of the program and chatting about subjects such as mother and daughter relationships may help someone feel less alone in their lives and concerns. My experience is that when others have shared aspects of their life with me I feel connected and a part of the larger world.

As I mentioned to Ms. Currie, I appreciate the consideration of your time to read this letter. Please help me and my upcoming guests to forward the message of the importance of children and family as natural resources to the future of our community and country. Of course, we can reschedule the program time and date if it is not compatible with your schedule. As the First Lady, I know your participation on **Mom Chat** will require preparation by your staff. I am available at either the address above or at (847) 234-5177.

Enclosed please find some information concerning the program, me, my scheduled guests, and our shared view..." it takes a village to raise a child." I do hope you will join us.

Sincerely,


Mary C. Sanders

Enclosures

4-8-94

Send to Denskind ✓

Yes _____

No _____

Coordinate w / ~~Speckley~~ ^{Once Read} ✓

Yes _____

No _____

C.

RAND

James A. Thomson

President and Chief Executive Officer

1700 Main Street April 3, 1997

PO Box 2138

Santa Monica

California

90407 - 2138

310 451 6936

Fax 310 451 6972

The President
The White House
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I have followed with interest your initiatives to reform the nation's welfare system, especially the ideas that depend on effective public-private partnerships. Shortly after your State of the Union address, the CEO of one of the firms that agreed to play a leading role in hiring welfare recipients asked me whether RAND could provide assistance to them in hiring welfare recipients. In response, my staff has provided that company and the other four with some initial strategic thinking (enclosed). We have offered to assist each of them in any way that we can.

Similarly, we would like to make ourselves available to you to assist you in any way possible in making the new welfare system succeed. RAND has a long history of helping the federal government tackle some of the most pressing social problems. We are also providing technical assistance to county governments in California, helping them to address the challenges and opportunities offered by welfare reform.

Again, if there is anything that RAND can do to assist you in making welfare reform a success, do not hesitate to contact me. I am taking the liberty of sharing a few of our most recent RAND papers on issues related to poverty and welfare with Lyn Hogan of your Domestic Policy Council staff. We would, of course, be very happy to send copies of these papers to you as well.

Sincerely,



JAT:jr

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Enclosures: 1) *Hiring Welfare Recipients: Some Initial Considerations*, RAND, February 1997

2) List of Publications provided to Lyn Hogan, Senior Policy Analyst, Domestic Policy Council

cc: Lyn Hogan

**PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED TO LYN HOGAN
SENIOR POLICY ANALYST
DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL**

- Currie, Janet and Duncan Thomas, *Does Head Start Make a Difference?*, RAND, RP-440, 1995.
- Currie, Janet and Duncan Thomas, *Does Head Start Help Hispanic Children?*, RAND, DRU-1528-RC, October 1996.
- Gresenz, Carole Roan, *An Empirical Investigation of the Role of AFDC Benefits in Location Choice*, RAND, DRU-1611-RC, April 1997.
- Hosek, James and Robert Levine (eds.), *The New Fiscal Federalism and the Social Safety Net, A View from California*, RAND, CF-123-RC, 1996.
- Hosek, James R., "Determinants of Family Participation in the AFDC-Unemployed Fathers Program," *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, September 21, 1978, pp. 466-470.
- Jackson, Catherine and Jacob Alex Klerman, *Fixed Effects, Public Policy and Teenage Fertility*, RAND, DRU-428-NICHD, July 1993.
- Klerman, Jacob Alex, *Welfare Reform and Abortion: Research Perspectives*, RAND, DRU-1423-NICHD, June 1996.
- Klerman, Jacob Alex, *Fertility Effects of Medicaid Funding of Abortions: A Disaggregated Analysis*, October 1996, (forthcoming RAND document: DRU-1527).
- Schoeni, Robert F., *Does Aid to Families with Dependent Children Displace Familial Assistance?*, RAND, DRU-1453-RC, July 1996.

Hiring Welfare Recipients: Some Initial Considerations

Prepared by RAND

February 1997

There are many factors that an organization must consider if it is going to target hiring welfare recipients. In this memo we discuss what we believe are the primary issues that any private firm must address.

What skills and abilities do welfare recipients possess?

Educational Background. To design an effective policy for hiring welfare recipients, it is first necessary to assess the skills, education, work experience, and training of welfare recipients. The typical welfare recipient is relatively low skilled; 47% are high school dropouts, with 15% having completed less than nine years of schooling. Thirty-seven percent of welfare recipients have a high school degree (and no more), and 11% have more than a high school diploma.

Work Experience. Most recipients do not have recent work experience; 62% have not worked at all in the past year, while 40% have not worked within the past two years. Only 10% are working while on Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and another 10% are in school or are participating in some form of training program. Many do not work or invest in upgrading their skills because they expect to stay on welfare for many years. Under the previous welfare law, only 7% of welfare participants were expected to be on assistance for less than two years, and 83% were expected to be on welfare for five or more years. Among those who do leave welfare, only 21% leave because they found a job that pays them enough that they become ineligible for assistance.

This is the profile of the typical welfare recipient in the nation as a whole; however, the skills and abilities of recipients vary across states and communities. Therefore, it would be necessary to evaluate the characteristics of welfare recipients in the geographic areas near their establishments.

How to utilize workers with these skills and abilities?

Given that most welfare recipients have relatively few skills and little work experience, the next question is what types of jobs could welfare recipients hold at a particular company? Would additional training be required? If so, what type of training and how costly would it be? How would a company's efforts complement the public sectors' investments in job training and preparation? Does the company expect growth in these types of jobs? Are these jobs located in areas where welfare recipients live?

Of course, the company itself is in the best position to evaluate their internal labor needs. However, RAND would be able to assist in determining the numbers and characteristics of welfare recipients in the areas near the company's establishments.

What special needs do welfare recipients have?

The typical welfare recipient is distinct in many ways, and the company will need to incorporate these factors into a successful strategic design. Approximately 90% of AFDC recipients are mothers living without the father of the child. Only 10% of families receiving AFDC consist of a mother and father living together, and most of these families are eligible because the father cannot find a job (i.e., they are in the AFDC-Unemployed Parent program). The company may consider targeting participants in the AFDC-Unemployed Parent program because they contain an adult who has had relatively recent work experience.

Among the 90% of welfare families headed by women, most are in their 20s and 30s (18% are 20-25, 20% are 26-29, 28% ages 30-39, and 28% 40 or older). Few, only 6%, are less than 20 years old. Forty percent of recipients are single, 20% divorced, 32% separated, and 5% widowed. About 40% are white, 40% black, 15% hispanic, and 5% are another race/ethnicity.

The primary barriers to finding and retaining a job among welfare recipients are (Rangarajan, 1996):

1. complicated child care and transportation needs
2. relatively little financial reward to working
3. personal disruptions and little support from family and friends
4. demanding work environment; differing expectations between themselves and employer.

1. Complicated child care and transportation needs

Perhaps the most significant barrier to employment among welfare mothers is child care. On average, welfare families include 2.9 people, with 42% having one child, 30% two children, 16% with three, and 10% with more than three children. And most of the families have very young children; 41% have a child 0-2 years old, and 62% have a child that is not yet in school (i.e., age 0-5).

If welfare recipients are to work, they must find child care. However, finding a child care provider whose schedules match recipients' work schedules is frequently difficult. The types of low paying jobs that many recipients find require nonstandard hours, when child care may not be available. Moreover, even if a provider is found, the cost of care may be prohibitive, especially given the low wages welfare recipients earn on most jobs available to them. And if they can afford care, the quality of the care may be low, creating a stressful

situation for the mother, which may affect her work performance. To the extent that she uses informal child care such as relatives and friends, these forms may not be as reliable, which may affect job attendance.

Locational and transportation constraints are also substantial barriers for some welfare recipients. Ten percent of recipients live in public housing, and only about 5% own a car. Many recipients work in areas without access to public transportation, and when public transportation is available, it is sometimes erratic, causing tardiness.

2. Relatively little financial reward to working

One of the primary barriers to finding and retaining a job under the old welfare law was that there were relatively few financial rewards to working. In Exhibit 1 we display the tradeoffs between working and not working under the old welfare system. The new system in each state is still evolving, and exact parameters are not available. Although the incentive to work is greater under the new law, especially after receiving assistance for more than two years, under the new law recipients will still have an incentive to remain on welfare and not work.

**Exhibit 1. Earnings and Benefits for a Mother With Two Children With Daycare Expenses—
After 4 Months on the Job in Pennsylvania**

Earnings	EITC	AFDC	Food Stamps	Medicaid coverage?	Taxes	Work expenses	Total Disposable Income
0	\$0	\$5,052	\$2427	Yes	\$0	\$0	\$7,479
\$2,000	368	4,892	2,115	Yes	153	600	8,622
\$5,000	920	2,492	2,295	Yes	383	1,500	8,824
\$8,000	1,384	0	2,503	Yes	612	2,400	8,875
\$15,000	969	0	0	No	1,593	4,200	10,178
\$30,000	0	0	0	No	5,018	5,400	19,582

EITC = Earned Income Tax Credit. Taxes include all federal and state payments. Source: U.S. House Ways and Means Committee, *Overview of Entitlement Programs*, 1992.

Consider a single mother with two children. If she was not working, she would have a disposable income of \$7,479 (and this excludes the benefits she may receive from subsidized housing). If she decided to work and earned \$5,000 in the year, she would benefit from the Earned Income Tax Credit, but her AFDC and Food Stamp benefits would decline. In total, the increase in earnings by \$5,000 would translate into an increase in total disposable income of only \$1,400 (from \$7,479 to \$8,824). And if she worked enough to earn \$15,000, she would lose her entire AFDC and Food Stamp grant plus her health insurance through Medicaid, and her total disposable income would be only \$10,178. A company must be aware of these tradeoffs facing their welfare workers.

3. Personal disruptions, and little support from family and friends

Although many recipients have supportive social networks, for some, friends and family resent their decision to work, creating stress, and in some cases depression, among working recipients. Working recipients also cite the strain their job has on their children's lives, especially among those who have nonstandard work schedules who may not be able to spend much time with their children.

When recipients face a major crisis such as a health problem, and they do not have adequate employer-provided health insurance, they may return to welfare in order to receive Medicaid coverage. In addition, 18% of welfare recipients have a health condition that limits their ability to work. And abusive ex-husbands or boyfriends compound these problems.

4. Demanding work environment; differing expectations between themselves and employer

Some recipients have not held stable employment and are not familiar with expectations and norms of the workplace. Tardiness and failure to comply with work schedules are a common reason for recipients to lose their jobs. When they know they are going to be tardy, some do not give their supervisor advanced notice. Other welfare recipients have little tolerance in dealing with customers. Some expect promotion and advancement at a faster pace than is reasonable, creating frustration and, in some case, job termination.

In sum, welfare recipients face barriers that most other individuals do not, and if these barriers are not addressed welfare recipients are not likely to make successful transitions into any firm's workplace. Therefore, a company may want to consider providing some type of "case management" or support services that can assist former welfare recipients cope with day-to-day issues such as child care (and sick-child care), transportation, work attitudes, and relationships with supervisors and co-workers. For example, Marriott established the Associate Resource Line, a national toll-free referral service that hooks up its workers with local social services. Marriott also has a program, called Pathways to Independence, that develops basic work skills for former welfare recipients such as showing up on time, self-esteem, and personal financial management. Marriott works with federally funded local organizations to split the \$5,500 per person costs of the program. Workers in Pathways to Independence have a lower turnover rate than the companies' national average.

Additional considerations for private firms

How will federal law affect a company's strategy?

In order to design an effective strategy, companies must understand the laws and requirements placed on state governments and on welfare recipients. Welfare recipients will be weighing options, such as to remain on federal aid, and employers must realize what these options are. Federal and state governments provide

certain assistance, such as child care, wage subsidies, training programs, and companies should become familiar with these government resources and, if desired, tap into them.

Under welfare reform, states and even individual counties and communities will redesign their welfare programs. So a national employer will be dealing with a host of programs and requirements, making it difficult to design a single national program to hire welfare recipients. For example, some states and counties will provide readily-available and well-funded child care assistance, while in others the company itself may have to develop child care resources. In some areas, transportation systems are in place or transportation subsidies can be provided, while in others, there may be no such infrastructure or support. In addition, transitional support programs, such as child care, health care, and "case management" will be put in place and funded by some communities, but in others it will not.

Therefore, a company may want to identify one or two states or communities on which to concentrate their efforts. These states or communities should be strategically selected based on a variety of factors, including the welfare systems adopted there, as well as labor force characteristics, access of welfare populations to employment facilities, and existence of government provided child care. RAND has experience in working with state and local welfare offices in many locations, including Los Angeles, Houston, Colorado, Missouri, Florida, and New York, and we could help facilitate communications and identify locations that would be conducive to the company's strategy.

Because states have been given a larger role in determining welfare policies, states are considering various options to make it attractive for employers to hire welfare recipients. Private firms that are proactive may have the opportunity to shape government policy by letting state governments know what assistance they prefer. Examples include tax credits, relocation assistance, and subsidized child care or training. A company may consider playing an active role in shaping policies in targeted states.

All firms are likely to face organizational barriers as well. For example, will existing workers be hostile towards their new welfare recipient co-workers? If welfare workers are hired at government-subsidized wages, will unions rebel?

Clearly, private firms face many obstacles in hiring and retaining welfare recipients and in making them productive employees. Designing an effective policy will require innovative and creative approaches.

Relevant Studies

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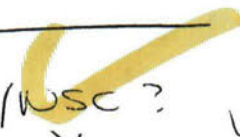
Yang, Catherine, "Low-wage Lessons," *Business Week*, November 11, 1996, pp. 109.

4-8-97

Send to Donskrid? 

Yes _____

No _____

coordinate w/NSC? 

Yes _____

No _____

c

N A D I A C O M A N E C I

File

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

Dear Mr. President:

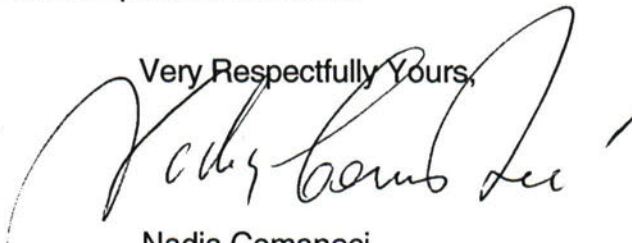
I was sorry to hear about your recent knee injury. Both my husband, Olympic Champion Bart Conner, and I have had similar surgeries, and we can assure you that you will soon be back in "perfect 10" form.

The purpose of my letter is to express my own, as well as Bart's, strong support for the admission of Romania, my native country, to NATO in the first round of it's proposed enlargement.

I am sure your analysts have seen the viability of Romania as a NATO member because of it's deep commitment to American and Western values. I only want to underline that the admission of Romania to the North- Atlantic Treaty Organization could help serve the interests of the United States with regards to the peace and stability of this rather critical region in Central and Eastern Europe.

Mr. President, please enlist our support in your judgement of this matter of vital importance for the future of Europe and Romania.

Very Respectfully Yours,



Nadia Comaneci



3214 BART CONNER DRIVE, NORMAN, OK 73072
TEL: 405-364-5344 FAX: 405-321-7229

4-8-97

To Donsland for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

coordinate w/ ~~Hale~~ Bruce Reed +

Yes ☒ Murchale

No ☐

c.



Staff Sec

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007
(212) 669-8300

5

RUTH W. MESSINGER
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

March 27, 1997

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

When you signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, you acknowledged that certain provisions went too far and you promised to correct them. As you know, I wrote to you expressing my reservations about the law and urged you to keep your promise.

As the welfare reform law now stands, some 75,000 noncitizens in New York City could lose their Supplemental Security Income (SSI) by August 1997. We're talking here about the elderly and the disabled, whose SSI benefits are often their sole means of support. The palpable fear running through elderly and disabled immigrant communities is that they will, literally, be left out in the cold--unable to pay rent and at risk of losing the roof over their head. After all, it's not as though they have any alternatives: they receive SSI for the simple reason that by virtue of their age, infirmity, or mental or physical disability they cannot just go out and get a job. Many cannot even care for themselves.

Becoming citizens would enable elderly and disabled immigrants to retain SSI. But citizenship is not always an option--as people age, new language acquisition becomes increasingly difficult, if not impossible, and unless they fit into the narrow category of individuals who would be exempt from the English language requirement, chances are they won't pass the citizenship exam. Or they may be so mentally disabled that they cannot take a meaningful oath of citizenship. In these cases, the resulting loss of SSI might well be a matter of life and death.

In my travels around the city, I've seen and heard the compelling stories of those whose futures are dangerously uncertain as a consequence of the welfare law. Consider the 80-year-old Russian

emigre in Brooklyn who has dreamed of becoming an American citizen and has tried to learn English since his arrival here five years ago. With the SSI cutoff date approaching, he is given over to a growing sense of despair about ever learning enough English--he often forgets much of what he learns the minute he steps out of the classroom; and now his son, a medical student in his thirties for whom he chose to come to the United States, has been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Or consider the Dominican woman who spent years laboring in a sweatshop to support herself and now, in her seventies and too infirm to keep working, will likely lose her SSI because her limited English makes naturalization impossible. Then there is the Korean minister and his wife, working hard to support themselves, who do not know what they will do when their four parents, all elderly permanent residents, lose SSI. And what will happen to those legal immigrants who are thoroughly incapacitated--physically and mentally?

These and many more stories are, simply put, tragedies-in-waiting. I am heartened, therefore, by the steps you have taken in your budget proposal to restore benefits to some legal immigrants. I support your proposal to allow those who become disabled after entry to receive SSI; to expand from five years after arrival to seven the period during which refugees can receive benefits; and to provide medical assistance to low-income immigrant children. I urge you to fight hard to make those proposals a reality, and I pledge my assistance in that fight.

But I would go further. I urge you to work with Congress to restore SSI eligibility to the elderly and disabled, particularly those who received such aid prior to enactment of the welfare law. Given that those affected by the SSI bar are *de facto* not able to work--their inability to work is what qualified them for SSI in the first place--restoring such benefits does not run counter to the welfare law's stated intention of moving people from welfare to work.

Failing that, I would ask at a minimum that the cut-off date for SSI be delayed. The Social Security Administration should continue to provide SSI to individuals awaiting a determination on their citizenship application, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service should allocate the necessary resources to process citizenship applications in a timely fashion and reduce the delays that currently occur.

These proposals should protect some of the elderly and disabled from harm, but many will still eventually fall through the cracks. Perhaps we could come up with waivers to protect them, too, but it seems to me it makes more sense, and would be a more honest, direct course of action, to acknowledge how mistaken the SSI bar itself is. I cannot help but come back to my recommendation--my plea--that elderly and disabled immigrants remain eligible for SSI.

I cannot fathom that pulling the rug out from under the most vulnerable among us was your intent when you signed the welfare law. I cannot fathom that we as a nation could invite people to immigrate here, then change the rules once they've uprooted themselves from all that was familiar. I cannot fathom how we could have implemented a law so poorly thought out that it has spawned a whole cottage industry of strategies designed to mitigate the impact of its most extreme provisions. That impact, in plain language? Turning elderly and disabled immigrants out on the streets, leaving them without the resources to pay rent or buy food, leaving states and localities scrambling to respond to an unconscionable and wholly avoidable social crisis.

More than half a century ago, President Roosevelt spoke of "looking forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms": the freedoms of expression and religion, and the freedoms from want and fear. It is a dark day, indeed, when want and fear loom large in the life of people who, in pursuit of those very freedoms, have chosen to make America their home.

Sincerely,



Ruth Messinger

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 7-8

TO:

Ala 21,

FROM: Staff Secretary

In case you
never saw this

1-02

March 19, 1997

Sister Marietta Murphy, IHM
Immaculate Heart of Mary
610 West Elm Avenue
Monroe, Michigan 48162-7909

Dear Sister Marietta:

Thank you so much for writing to me. I am touched by your recollections of Alexis Herman in the first grade. She can be proud to have earned such generous words of praise, and I have shared your letter with her.

Alexis has excellent experience for the job of Secretary of Labor. She has a great track record of expanding opportunities for minorities and women -- from her first job at Catholic Charities 25 years ago, through her service as the youngest-ever Director of the Women's Bureau at the Department of Labor under President Carter, and her work in her consulting business. In addition, Alexis has been an outstanding Director of the Office of Public Liaison at the White House during the past four years. She has a rare gift for bringing people together and is a true coalition builder. I am confident that she will be confirmed by the Senate.

Thanks again for your letter and for your prayers. Hillary joins me in sending best wishes to you and all the sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sincerely, **BILL CLINTON**

BC/LIJ/RSM/DWB/jfc-ckb-lynn (Corres. #3416617)
(3.murphy.m)

cc: w/copy of incoming Todd Stern, ~~GREL/WW~~
cc: w/copy of incoming to Alexis Herman, 2FL/WW



SISTERS, SERVANTS OF THE
IMMACULATE
HEART of MARY

610 West Elm Avenue, Monroe, MI 48162-7909 · 313/241-0092 · fax 313/241-9114

February 28, 1997

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

It isn't often that a teacher has the privilege of having taught a now famous person and that is the reason for my letter to you at this time. Many years ago I was assigned to teach at St Peter Claver School in Mobile, Alabama. Michigan seemed a long way away from the deep South and being very young at the time it was quite an adjustment for me. Looking back and remembering all my wonderful experiences, I am so grateful to have ministered in this special place.

Alexis Herman was one of my first grade pupils and I remember her well. She was a bright articulate student and such a perfect little lady. I have not seen her since leaving Mobile but I have been able to follow her career. Thank you for nominating her as your new Secretary of Labor. Alexis has been a conscientious public servant who served well and has earned the right to her nomination. I hope that her nomination will be confirmed soon.

Thank you for what you are doing for our Country. Please know that you are in my prayers and the prayers of many of our IHM Sisters.

Sincerely,

Sister Marietta Murphy, IHM
Sister Marietta Murphy, IHM

4-8-97

To Bob Nash for reply
after you have seen?

Yes ☒

No ☐



April 2, 1997

Arun Ganguly, Chairman of the Board
Washington, D.C.

Andy Halpert, President
Coral Springs, Florida

Emile Duggan-Hicks, Secretary
Somerville, Massachusetts

Jason Roach, Chief Financial Officer
Farmington, New Mexico

Ellis Crossman, Vice President
Board Communication
Alamosa, Colorado

Sara Nelson, Vice President
Marketing
Shoreview, Minnesota

Maggie Crawford
Coden, Alabama

Jessica A. Davis
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Kelly J. DiBlase
Portland, Maine

Summer Fielder
Marietta, Ohio

Marleo Henry
Detroit, Michigan

Brooke Langly
Raleigh, North Carolina

Chaetly Maxwell
Ethridge, Tennessee

Erica Roff
Burlington, Kentucky

Toniesta Taylor
San Marcos, California

Rasheda Williams
Detroit, Michigan

Matt Hardman
Executive Director

David P. Dubner
Co-Founder

Scott Marcus
Co-Founder

Honorable President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington DC 20500

Subject: Appointment Of A New Surgeon General

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing you in regardsto the appointment of a new Surgeon General. As you are aware during the past few weeks several new revelations have come out in regards tocigarettes being addictive. In addition the Ligette Group agreed to settle the multi-billion dollar class action lawsuit which was filed against them, this means the tobacco industry is finally prepared to settle. I believe now that Ligette has settled many other companies will follow.

We all know cigarettes are addictive and the tobacco industry targets the youth with various add campaigns. It is time to pressure the tobacco industry and have them declare everything they are hiding. The tobacco companies are all publicly traded and all information should be available to the public. As I have stated to you before I appreciate your on going support, but as you stated to me in your letter dated March 29, 1996, people like myself can be more influential than the President. (Please see attached) I agree with you, however one thing you have is power to appointment people who will support us.

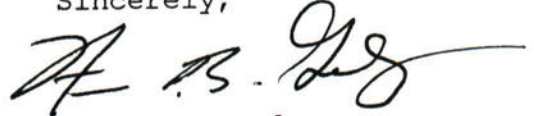
The tobacco industry has millions of dollars to fight battles in court, however ant-smoking organizations like ours do not have money to fight the tobacco industry in court. All we can do is fight them in the grass root levels. However if we have strong advocates fighting with us we can beat the tobacco industry, that is why I need you to appoint a new Surgeon General immediately.

Honorable President William J. Clinton
April 2, 1997
Page # 2

Two week ago CNN reported that Dr. David Satcher of the CDC was a leading candidate for the position. I fully support Dr. Satcher's appointment. I have had the opportunity to work with him, he is a fine man. He will be a great a Surgeon General. I appeared with him in a national town hall forum called "Youth and Elders"

I look forward to working with you, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Arun B. Ganguly', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Arun B. Ganguly
Chairman

ABG:kw

cc: Dr. David Satcher
CDC

Honorable Atty Mike Moore
State of Mississippi

Honorable Congressman Henry A. Waxman
United States House of Representatives

Honorable Congressman Martin Meehan
United States House of Representatives

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 29, 1996

Mr. Arun B. Ganguly
Chairman of the Board
Student Coalition Against Tobacco, Inc.
Suite 3089-W
4201 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016-4790

Dear Arun:

Thank you for your kind letter. I'm pleased to know of your ongoing contribution to the struggle against teen smoking. Young activists like you can often have more influence on your peers than parents or the President, and I'm glad to hear of your dedicated involvement.

As we work to create a healthier society for our young people and a stronger America for tomorrow, I will certainly keep your views in mind. Also, I have shared your letter with my staff. You have my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 4-8

TO: Bob Nash

FROM: Staff Secretary

Please advise.
This guy is vying
to be why he
should be Surgeon
General. Todd

rec'd 4-7-97
2:30pm

MEMORANDUM

April 7, 1997

TO: Todd

FR: Chris J.

RE: Dr. Rick Boxer

Dr. Rick Boxer really wants the President to receive the attached letter explaining his candidacy for Surgeon General. You, of course, would best know about the advisability of sending his note into the President. As you know, Dr. Satcher is all but locked into this position. Call me at 6-5560 with any questions.

UROLOGY SPECIALISTS, S.C.

Adult and Pediatric Urology

Richard J. Boxer, M.D.
Mitchell L. Wiatrak, M.D.
Philip M. Sweetser, M.D.
David S. Sandock, M.D.

(Mailing Address)
St. Michael Professional Bldg.
2350 West Villard Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53209
414-527-3000
Facsimile 414-527-3114

April 2, 1997

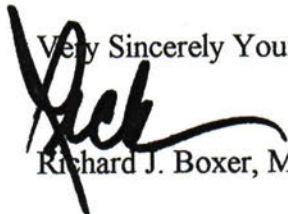
Chris Jennings
Assistant to the President
Domestic Policy Council
Old Executive Office Building, Room 212
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Blvd.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Chris:

I called yesterday to again thank you for all the help you have given me. I also wanted to ask you a favor. I am enclosing a letter that I wrote to the President. I would greatly appreciate you bringing it to his attention. If I write to him directly, I fear he will never see it. I wrote the letter because I thought I may not have the opportunity to personally explain why I believe a clinician would be the best person for the position of Surgeon General, both politically and for policy.

Thank you very much for all the support.

Very Sincerely Yours,



Richard J. Boxer, M. D.

UROLOGY SPECIALISTS, S.C.

Adult and Pediatric Urology

Richard J. Boxer, M.D.
Mitchell L. Wiatrak, M.D.
Philip M. Sweetser, M.D.
David S. Sandock, M.D.

(Mailing Address)
St. Michael Professional Bldg.
2350 West Villard Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53209
414-527-3000
Facsimile 414-527-3114

April 2, 1997

President William Jefferson Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Respectfully, I write to you to explain why I believe I could be an effective advocate for the health policies of your Administration as your Surgeon General.

I am a Professor of Health Policy and of Family and Community Medicine. I have practiced medicine for 25 years, helping one patient at a time, fighting for their health and dignity. I was the Senior Advisor for Health and Human Services (along with Stephen Gleason) for your 1996 campaign. Finally, I successfully battled cancer, receiving surgery, chemotherapy, and a bone marrow transplant. Thus, I understand the provider, consumer, academic, and political aspects of health care.

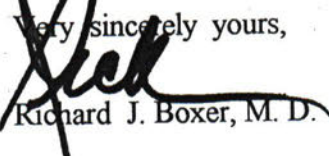
The Surgeon General who represents your Administration should be a clinician. Americans identify with their doctor, not with an academician or government bureaucrat. Theoretical knowledge is no substitute for practical experience. For the past 25 years I have been a Midwestern doctor who has held the hands of the distressed and shared the ecstasy of the cured. Every day I treat patients and hear about their needs and concerns. Also, I truly understand the anxieties doctors, nurses, and other health workers are experiencing. These people deserve to have a person in your Administration who really understands their problems. The last practicing physician who held the position of Surgeon General was C. Everett Koop. Many believe that he was successful because he brought to the job the credibility of a doctor who understood the pain of disease and the enthusiasm of the physician who has cured the ill. A Surgeon General with clinical experience would not only bring credibility to discussions of disease and prevention, but would also be reassuring about your commitment to affordable, high quality health care.

I have spent my career treating patients with cancer and doing cancer research. Recently, I successfully battled cancer. I am on your National Cancer Advisory Board. Nearly every major cancer organization has endorsed me for Surgeon General. Although infectious disease, especially AIDS, is crucial (AIDS Action endorsed me), cancer affects nearly every family in America. Unfortunately, you know what the disease can do to a loved one and the family. Last week you spoke about your increased sensitivity to those who are disabled because of your recent injury. I also have an increased awareness of the pain and suffering that patients and the disabled endure, because of my recent experience with cancer. I can credibly represent doctors, health care workers, and patients, and can be a role model for those who have been afflicted with cancer.

You have eloquently stated that you will govern from the "vital center." Americans are worried about their health, their providers, their HMOs and their health insurance. I am **trusted** by the consumers and providers of America as evidenced by the support of 25 consumer organizations (including the AFL-CIO, SEIU, AFSCME, AFT, Citizen Action, Families USA, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, and the National Council for Senior Citizens), 37 national medical and public health organizations (including the AMA, senior officers of the ANA, Family Practitioners, Internists, and Surgeons), Democrats, Republicans, and nonpartisans.

I would be honored to work for you, the Vice President and the American people as the Surgeon General. I believe I could represent the patients and the providers while working with your executive staff and Secretary Shalan, my friend and fellow Wisconsinite.

Very sincerely yours,


Richard J. Boxer, M.D.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 4-8

TO:  R L H -

FROM: Staff Secretary

Py1 - Potus
wants tech to
respond. How
do you want to
handle?


original sent to
records management

The Reich Question: Where Is Clinton's Core?

President Bill Clinton is very well served by his adversaries; his allies, however, are another matter.

The president owes his re-election much less to Dick Morris or other political hired guns than to Speaker Newt Gingrich, who—even more than Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan—provided the president with the perfect political environment. Four years earlier Mr. Clinton's ability to appear as a New Democrat was due much less to his pals at the centrist Democratic Leadership Council than to his attacks on Sister Souljah and, indirectly, Jesse Jackson.

But when his guru, Mr. Morris, penned a book about the 1996 election and his White

energetic mind; the author envies "his capacity for sheer, exuberant joy." His persuasive charm can be dazzling. But after more than 300 pages, there is absolutely no sense of what the most successful Democratic politician of this age really believes—if anything.

There are numerous insights in Mr. Reich's well-written account; self-deprecating humor, especially about his 4-foot, 10-inch frame, is pervasive. More substantively, he captures the possibilities and perils of governance. We see Secretary Reich overruling bureaucrats who want to make a federal case of the Savannah Cardinals using a 14-year-old batboy after 7 p.m. We also see the labor secretary trying to embarrass an Oklahoma City plant for safety violations by personally imposing a huge fine—only to see the company then close the plant to avoid federal meddling.

Mr. Reich also dissects the Washington culture. Former Deputy Treasury Secretary Roger Altman—thoroughly honest, bright and dedicated—is victimized as "innuendos have been piled atop innuendos," left twisting in the wind by his own administration and then "despicably" hounded out of office. Mr. Reich also captures the money-centered power of the business lobby, which far eclipses labor's more oft-cited muscle.

But the heart of Mr. Reich's book, and of Mr. Clinton's first term, is the battle for the president's mind and soul. The guts of this is the economic battle, with Mr. Reich representing the liberal side's belief that the central problem is wage stagnation and income disparity, necessitating federal investments to increase the skills and education of middle-class and poor workers. The other side's priority—argued by Treasury Secretaries Lloyd Bentsen and Robert Rubin and Fed Chairman Greenspan—is deficit reduction, which they believe will lead to more private investment and higher productivity.

This is an important debate represented capably by both sides. Mr. Clinton is eager to please everyone, invariably coming down with his finger to the wind.

In 1995, when the president capitulates to some GOP budget cuts, Secretary Reich confronts Vice President Al Gore, who reportedly replies: "You've known the President far longer than most of us. He doesn't like drawing sharp lines." Strong presidents—Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Ronald Reagan—draw sharp lines.

As the election year nears, the president is adamant to embrace a balanced budget. Why? "The swing voters care about this." The agenda is framed largely by Mr. Morris; everything is determined by polls. Mr. Morris himself writes that the president's selection of a vacation spot was poll-driven.

The political consultant went over to see Mr. Reich and gave him the formula for how ideas make it in the Clinton administration: "Put them into our opinion poll. . . . Anything under forty percent doesn't work. Fifty percent is a possibility. Sixty or seventy, and the President may well use it." Under this formula, Mr. Clinton, with Mr. Morris at his side, would have rejected lend-lease and the draft prior to World War II, and the Marshall Plan after the war.

The Clinton presidency's endless search is for the center; this is less out of any conviction, Mr. Reich notes, than merely "positioning. The visionary leaders of America have always understood that the 'center' is a fictitious place, lying somewhere south of thoughtless adherence to the status quo. Virtually any attempt to lead—to summon forth the ener-

gies and commitments of Americans—will be unconventional at the time the first challenge is sounded. Leadership, by definition, does not cater to the center. If it did, there would be no need to lead. The nation is already there."

You don't have to share Mr. Reich's policy prescriptions to appreciate the wisdom of his analysis. The president will pay a price, current poll ratings notwithstanding. This is the most unique political time I've seen in 28 years of Washington reporting. Usually when one party or philosophy is down the other is up; today both the Democrats and Republicans are down, insecure about where they've been and unsure where to go.

But the president seems incapable of taking advantage as his adversaries are too weak to be effective foils. Most Wednesdays he has sessions with the political consultants—Mark Penn and Bob Squier, the poor man's answers to Dick Morris—but there is no strategic vision. Even as a lame duck, he's unwilling to risk much political capital, sidestepping the effort led by Sen. Pat Moynihan to save billions by slightly curbing the inflation adjustment for entitlements and taxes. If the economy goes south or the scandals worsen, this president has no political or policy safety net.

Mr. Morris has explained that the president "tacks to the right when the wind is blowing right. Then he tacks to the left when it's blowing left." Mr. Clinton's defenders say this is the mark of a successful leader, noting that Franklin Roosevelt zigged and zagged and played different people and positions off one another.

But FDR had core beliefs. As someone once said, when you drew a line through his zigs and zags the direction was clear. Reading Mr. Reich's riveting account yields a sense that if you drew a line through Mr. Clinton's zigs and zags you'd get a circle.



Robert Reich

Politics & People

By Albert R. Hunt



House experiences, a much different Mr. Clinton emerged. After cutting through the perfunctory insistence that Mr. Clinton really has beliefs, Mr. Morris depicts a president who never lets principle get in the way of expediency. Mr. Morris wrote a sleazy, self-serving book—so, some Clinton defenders say, what did you expect?

But an almost identical portrait emerges from a far more credible book: "Locked in the Cabinet" by Robert Reich, soon to be published by Knopf. It's based on careful diaries Mr. Reich kept during his four years as Mr. Clinton's labor secretary. Mr. Reich is almost everything Mr. Morris is not: principled, caring, fascinated with ideas and more than a tad naive. He also is an old friend of the president's; they first met almost 30 years ago when they sailed to Europe together as Rhodes scholars.

The Bill Clinton in Mr. Reich's book possesses an incredibly wide-ranging and

Reich
Two with a request
to Reich - BK

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1997

4-8-97

Send to Dorland?

Yes ☒

No ☐

C.



Staff Sec.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Office of the Chairman
Department of Pharmacology

April 3, 1997

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500-0003

Dear Mr. President:

As a teacher, I am extremely pleased that you have chosen education as a theme for your second administration. I am writing to call attention to one aspect of education that has received little attention, but has the potential to greatly improve the lives of Americans: Education about the medications taken by massive number of people in our country, including especially women, children and the elderly.

Some related facts:

- ✧ The average American takes 8 prescription drugs each year -- those over 65 take more than 15 per year.
- ✧ Over 23% of prescriptions for the elderly have been judged inappropriate or dangerous.
- ✧ The FDA estimates that side effects and misuse of medicines cost \$76 billion in medical care each year.
- ✧ Our nation spends over \$50 billion on prescription medicines each year.

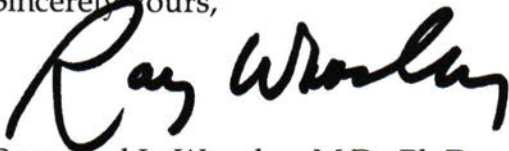
It is clear that physicians, pharmacists and the public are all inadequately informed about the careful and safe use of medications and I believe the answer to the problem lies in education. I recently served on a Congressionally-mandated panel on prescription drug information for patients that called for programs to educate the public on the proper use of medications. Unfortunately, our free market system is failing to do this. Pharmaceutical companies focus on marketing their products while health care providers often contradict them in an attempt to reduce drug costs. What is needed is an authoritative resource that can conduct independent educational programs about medications for physicians, pharmacists, nurses and the public.

The Honorable Bill Clinton
April 3, 1997
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Ironically, there is a readily available, independent source of reliable information about prescription medications that is rarely used: the nation's academic medical centers that contain some of the premier clinical pharmacologists in the world. At Georgetown, we have demonstrated that we can educate the public about medications through Elderhostels and courses for non-science majors. We have proposed that there be courses for those in our society in need of special information on medications, for example, a course for special education teachers to instruct them in the actions and unwanted effects of the many medications taken by their students with severe learning disorders or a course for the families of patients with severe mental disorders.

With encouragement and support from former Asst. Sec. H.H.S., Dr. Phil Lee, and the newly appointed Director of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, Dr. John Eisenberg, we were able to initiate authorizing language that would allow the FDA to create a network of academic medical centers to address this problem. The bill authorizing these Centers for Education and Research in Therapeutics (CERTs) was not passed in the last Congress and we are again working with legislators to reintroduce legislation that would begin a demonstration or pilot program. I hope you will agree that this concept has merit. I am eager to discuss this with you or your staff with a view to reintroduce this important legislation in the current Congress.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ray Woosley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ray" and last name "Woosley" clearly legible.

Raymond L. Woosley, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman of Pharmacology

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 4/8

To: Maria Echaveste

From: The Staff Secretary

FYI re: Tuskegee.

Correspondence won't respond
until we figure out what FORS
will do.

Phil Caplan

7176P
FRED D. GRAY
Due Smith / Rm 6
GRAY, LANGFORD, SAPP, MCGOWAN, GRAY & NATHANSON

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS

P.O. BOX 830239
108 EASTSIDE STREET
TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA 36083-0239
(334) 727-4830
Fax (334) 727-5877

THE BAILEY BUILDING, #205
400 SOUTH UNION STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
(334) 269-2563
FAX (334) 834-6398

March 26, 1997

FRED D. GRAY*
CHARLES D. LANGFORD
ERNESTINE S. SAPP
WALTER E. MCGOWAN
FRED D. GRAY, JR.**
STANLEY F. GRAY**
ALLAN NATHANSON***

ALSO LICENSED:
*OHIO
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
***ARIZONA

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Pollard, et al. v. USA, et al., CV-4126-N
United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama

Dear President Clinton:

I represent 623 African American men from Macon County, Alabama in what has become known as the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. They were solicited by United States Public Health Service officials and employees to participate in a health program financed by the United States government in 1932. The undisclosed medical purpose was to observe the effects of untreated syphilis on African American males. Poor, uneducated, misinformed African American men were persuaded to take part in a health program by officials who told them they were beneficiaries of a new health program wherein their illnesses would be cured and they would receive free medical examinations, free transportation to some appointments, free meals, and burial insurance.

Forty years after the initiation of the experiment, national news media exposed the Study. The men heard, for the first time, of the Study and that they had syphilis. They were used as human guinea pigs in a cruel, inhumane experiment conducted by the Public Health Service with the sanction of the United States government. Some died and all suffered as a result of penicillin not being administered. In 1973, I filed a lawsuit on behalf of these participants and the heirs of deceased participants in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama seeking redress for injuries done to them. In 1974, the case was settled with the government paying certain designated amounts to the living participants and certain designated amounts to the heirs of deceased participants. Under the settlement, the United States was ordered to continue a health care program and death benefits for these participants.

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The United States government's active involvement in this tragedy is well documented. Defendants in the case included the United States of America; Casper Weinberger as Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and others. The United States knew that the unwitting participants had syphilis and failed to treat them; the Public Health Service failed to fully disclose to the men that they had syphilis and failed to treat them, while misrepresenting to them that they were being properly treated for whatever diseases they had. Perhaps you are not aware, Mr. President, that over the years, the United States government has never expressed regret or remorse, sympathy, sorrow, or other sentiments to these citizens and the affected families for the government's role in the Study. You now have the opportunity to act.

As President, you have shown courage and commitment to right wrongs, making hard decisions such as decisive action with respect to welfare reform; you have successfully tackled difficult issues such as the process of negotiating peace in Middle East territories, and you recently awarded to African American servicemen the Medal of Honor for courageous acts in war dating to World War II. We believe you will do what is fitting, necessary, proper and appropriate in remedying this wrong and acknowledge the participants' contribution to the nation. I am informed that several persons and organizations have requested that an apology be made to the participants. We are further informed that you have discussed this matter or related matters with the Hon. Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services. Proper action at this time will likely result in African Americans' viewing with less skepticism and apprehension requests to participate in legitimate medical programs which seek cures for illnesses and diseases. Aggressive action and appropriate assurances from your office could generate dialogue and improve confidence in various clinical trials that will result in an increase in minority participation in programs, tests and studies designed to bring an end to dreaded diseases such as cancer.

There are eight living participants, the youngest of whom is 87 years old. In view of the fact that these men and their heirs have suffered substantially, the remaining participants and I would consider it an honor to meet with you to discuss an appropriate manner to resolve the issue. On behalf of these men, we are ready, willing and able to share their views with you or your representatives at your convenience.

Incidentally, I appreciate the private audience with you at the conclusion of your rally at Birmingham-Southern in Birmingham, Alabama on Thursday, October 25, 1996. At that time I presented to you a copy of *Bus Ride To Justice*. Chapter 17 contains a true and accurate account of my clients' participation in the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.

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We look forward to hearing from you at your convenience with reference to this matter and pray that you continue to rapidly recover from your recent injury and resultant surgery.

Very truly yours,



Fred D. Gray

FDG:j