

NLWJC - Kagan

DPC - Box 024 - Folder 005

Family - Child Care Conference [1]

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE AGENDA OVERVIEW

10:00-10:30 am

OPENING SESSION

10:00-10:10 The First Lady welcomes, makes remarks, and introduces video.

10:10-10:15 Video is shown.

10:15-10:17 Kathy Carliner (parent) introduces the President.

10:17-10:30 The President makes remarks.

10:30-12:00 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION -- THE CHALLENGE: AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND ASSURING SAFETY AND QUALITY IN CHILD CARE

The President and First Lady will moderate this session.

Panelists:

Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.

Michelle Seligson, Founder and Director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time.

Secretary Robert Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.

Secretary Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Governor James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina.

Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Patty Siegel, Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

12:00-2:00 pm

WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON AND WORKING SESSIONS AT FEDERAL AGENCIES

The First Lady will host the White House luncheon at which Members of Congress will speak. In addition, Secretaries Shalala, Herman, Riley and Glickman will host sessions at several agencies where guests will watch White House proceedings by satellite and participate in working meetings.

2:00-4:00 pm

AFTERNOON SESSION

2:00-2:05 The First Lady welcomes and introduces the Vice President.

2:05-2:15 The Vice President makes remarks and introduces Secretary Richard Riley.

2:15-2:20 Secretary Riley makes remarks.

PANEL DISCUSSION -- LEARNING FROM WHAT WORKS

The First Lady and Vice President will moderate this session.

Panelists:

Major General John G. Meyer, Chief of Public Affairs United States Army.

Jane Maroney, State Legislator, State of Delaware.

Dr. Susan Aronson, National Board, Member of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, Vicar of Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn.

John J. Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO.

Beatriz Otero, Executive Director, Calvary Bi-Lingual Multicultural Learning Center.

Doug Price, President, FirstBank of Colorado.

4:00-6:00 pm

SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION

The First Lady will host a reception for White House and Federal agency participants on the South Lawn. Mrs. Clinton will make remarks and report on the Federal agency working sessions. In addition, Members of Congress will make brief remarks.

I have no idea what their agenda is, but you might look for an opportunity to say that what we really need is a topic for the town hall and a general thematic approach for the next few months.

--- The White House Conference on Child Care

October 23, 1997

Internal Q and A

GENERAL CONFERENCE QUESTIONS

Question: Why are you hosting a White House Conference on Child Care?

Answer: The President and First Lady are hosting the first-ever White House Conference on Child Care to address the need that America's parents have for safe, affordable child care for their children. Millions of Americans, struggling to be both good parents and good workers, rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. Exploring the roles of both the public and private sectors, the Conference is intended to begin a dialogue on three of the most pressing child care issues -- availability, affordability, and assuring safety and quality.

The White House Conference on Child Care underscores and builds upon President Clinton's commitment to strengthen the American family. As he said to the National Governors Association, "We think every child should have access to quality child care, and we think it's the next great frontier if we're going to make sure all Americans can succeed at home and at work." (7/28/97)

Question: What is happening at the Conference?

Answer: There will be two panel discussions addressing three critical child care challenges -- availability, affordability and assuring safety and quality in child care. The morning panel, moderated by the President and First Lady, will explore why child care is important to our children's development and our nation's economy, and examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in communities across the country. The afternoon panel, moderated by the Vice President and First Lady, will highlight promising efforts around the country and discuss how all members of the community can address the challenge of assuring safe, affordable child care for working families who need it.

Question: What does the Administration see as the toughest problems facing parents when it comes to child care?

Answer: The intent of this conference is to examine the tough questions facing parents when seeking child care -- *Can I get it? Can I afford it? And can I trust it?* Millions of Americans rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. Parents need for it to be safe, available and affordable.

Question: What has the President done on this issue?

Answer: President Clinton has worked to improve and increase funding for child care. Under President Clinton's leadership, Federal funding for child care has increased by nearly 70%. The 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over 6 years to provide child care assistance to low-income working families and parents moving from welfare to work. A percentage of these funds are set aside for efforts to improve the quality of child care. To ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments, the President also launched the Healthy Child Care America Initiative. And because the Department of Defense child care system has become a model of employer-sponsored child care and after-school programming, the President asked the DOD to share its expertise with the civilian child care community.

During President Clinton's time in office, funding for Head Start has increased by 43%. This funding will continue to expand until it reaches the President's goal of serving one million children by the year 2002. The President also initiated the Early Head Start Program to expand the proven benefits of Head Start to low-income families with children age three and under.

To expand the benefits of after-school care, the President has, among other things, supported and signed the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act to fund after-school programs; called for an increased number of community schools that stay open longer and provide valuable resources to families and communities; and published a guide on *Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers*.

Question: What is the state of child care in America?

Answer: The morning panel will examine the question: what does child care look like in America today? As we know, studies have shown that quality is not what it should be. A recent four-state study on child care centers found that one in eight expose children to unsafe or unsanitary conditions and that only 14 percent provide high quality care. The conference participants -- parents, academic experts, economists, child care providers, advocates, and representatives of the religious, labor, and business communities -- will explore how we can improve the current state of child care.

Question: By focusing on paid child care, are you discouraging parents from staying at home? Isn't it really the parents' role to nurture the child?

Answer: The President and First Lady believe that the most important people in children's lives are parents, and they value and respect parents who decide to stay home to care for their children. We talk about family values in this country, but we need to look at steps to help parents make the choices that are right for their families. But, the reality is that 13 million children spend some or all of their day being cared for by someone other than their parents, either because both parents choose to or because both parents need to work. An important purpose of this conference is to address the needs of those 13 million children and their families.

Question: Are you looking at doing something to support parents who want to stay at home and care for their children?

Answer: This issue will be discussed at the Conference, and the President is looking at ways to support these parents at the same time as he is exploring ways to help working parents. Throughout his Presidency, President Clinton has worked hard to provide real choices and opportunities for parents. He has fought for policies that help working parents fulfill their responsibilities, including putting forth a \$500 per-child tax credit for children; expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief, increasing in the minimum wage, and signing Family and Medical Leave into law. President Clinton is committed to helping parents make the choices that are right for their families, whether that means working or staying home to care for children.

Question: How did you select these individuals who are panelists?

Answer: The White House held discussions with experts on child care from all across the country and received recommendations.

Question: The panels do not appear to be very bipartisan. Why not?

Answer: We have encouraged and received participation from both sides of the aisle. Republican State Representative Jane Maroney of Delaware will be a panelist today. In addition, Republican members of Congress will speak at the luncheon and the reception.

Question: What will the First Lady's role be in this?

Answer: The First Lady will continue to do what she has done for the last twenty years -- be a strong voice for children and families.

Question: Is the President intending to propose big investments in child care -- or strict regulation of child care -- in his next budget or State of the Union?

Answer: The President is considering a wide range of proposals for inclusion in the budget or State of the Union. He has made no decisions yet. But the President believes that the best way to make progress in this area is through collaboration with states, rather than through big, exclusively federal programs.

QUESTIONS ON NEW PROPOSALS

Question: What did the President announce today?

Answer: The President announced his intention to develop a child care initiative as a part of his next budget proposal. In addition, he announced several new efforts:
1) The appointment of a **Child Care Working Group** that will report to Secretary

Rubin on the role that business can play in providing child care;

2) **A proposal for a new scholarship program** for students training to be child care providers, as well as an **outreach plan** to make child care workers aware of possible eligibility for Pell Grants;

3) The transmittal of the **“National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact”** to Congress, which will enable states to share criminal history information for non-criminal purposes, including background checks on child care workers; and

4) **A strategy to use community service to strengthen after-school programs.** Enabling more communities to use community service to enrich their after-school programs, the President announced actions by the Corporation for National Service’s new To Learn and Grow Initiative, a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing the quality of after-school programs through service.

Question: **Are you announcing any new funding for child care today? What is the timing of your announcements? When will we see some really dollar figures? Next budget?**

Answer: The President took an important step to improve the quality of child care by asking Congress to enact a National Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund that will provide more than \$300 million in scholarships over five years to up to a quarter of a million child care providers (50,000 annually), helping the approximately 2.5 million children they care for. In addition, as the President said, his next budget will include a child care initiative.

The Child Care Working Group

Question: **Who’s on it?**

Answer: The Child Care Working Group will be made up primarily of prominent members of the business community. The group will consult with labor, economists and community leaders and report back to Secretary Rubin with recommendations.

Question: **What’s its purpose?**

Answer: The group will look at promising models of child care and think more carefully about the role that business should play in providing child care for their employees or enabling their employees and others in the community to gain access to high quality child care.

National Child Care Scholarship Fund

Question: **What is it?**

Answer: The President is proposing a new scholarship program, the National Child Care Scholarship Fund, as well as an outreach plan to let child care providers know that they may be eligible for Pell Grants. The Scholarship Fund will provide more than \$300 million in scholarships over five years to up to a quarter of a million child care

providers (50,000 annually). It will provide assistance to full-or part-time students who are working toward a Child Development Associate credential or another degree in child development and who agree to remain in the child care field for at least one year. Providers who complete their course work will receive increased compensation or a bonus. This program will be modeled after North Carolina Governor Hunt's T.E.A.C.H. -- Teacher Education And Compensation Helps Early Childhood Project -- and on the military system.

Question: Why is the Administration proposing a new scholarship program, when the previously-existing Child Development Associate (CDA) Scholarship Program was consolidated under the Child Care and Development Fund?

Answer: The Child Care Associate (CDA) scholarship program was a small program targeted at only one credential (the CDA). Given the limited nature of the CDA scholarship program, folding it into the Child Care and Development Fund made sense as part of an effort to simplify funding. The proposed new National Child Care Scholarship Fund is much broader in scope. It provides greater flexibility to States in designing programs that meet their needs. States can provide assistance to child care providers working towards state credentials, national credentials, and Associate, BA, or BS degrees.

Question: Will the National Scholarship Fund raise the cost of child care?

Answer: There is no evidence that child care costs will significantly increase since the overall demand for child care workers is continuing to grow, and any additional cost will be offset to some extent by savings associated with reduced staff turnover. North Carolina has not seen higher costs since it put T.E.A.C.H. in place.

Question: How many people will the program affect?

Answer: The program will provide training and support for up to 50,000 providers nationwide, affecting the care of more than a half million children per year.

Question: Why is a national scholarship program needed since individuals can already receive assistance under the Pell Grant program?

Answer: Pell Grants generally serve only very low-income individuals, and sometimes do not fully cover their costs. According to the U.S. Department of Education, among independent students (students for whom parental support is not expected), 70 percent of Pell Grant funds go to students with incomes of \$9,000 or less. Many of these low income students are in need of additional financial support. And others who need support are ineligible for Pell grants. This program will pay for a variety of costs, instead of, or on top of, Pell grants, such as tuition, books, transportation, and child care. All students will need to apply to apply for a Pell grant before receiving benefits under this program.

Question: Why is it important to remind child care workers that Pell Grants are available?

Answer: We would like to attract many talented students into this field. It is important that students know about all their options. Pell Grants can help make higher education a reality. A typical caregiver in a child care center earns \$12,000 a year. Attending a community college half time, with total costs of \$3,000, this individual would be eligible for a \$1,350 Pell Grant in 1997-98.

National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact

Question: **What is the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact?**

Answer: The National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations. The vast majority of child care providers are caring people who have dedicated their lives to teaching and nurturing children. But one tragedy in child care is too many, and background checks are one important way to ensure that the people watching our children are fit for this responsibility.

Question: **The First Lady has talked a lot about a registry of offenders. Is this what you are proposing be put in place?**

Answer: If the compact is passed and ratified, it will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations. That way, child care agencies or parents wanting to do background checks can gain access to ratifying states' complete criminal records. It is not a registry. It is an efficient, effective way of getting this important information to parents and agencies.

After-School Service Announcement

Question: **What is it?**

Answer: The President announced steps to use community service to strengthen after-school programs. The Corporation for National Service's new To Learn and Grow Initiative, a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing the quality of after-school programs through service, will:

- Release a "How-To Manual" that shows after-school programs how they can use service to strengthen their efforts; and
- Provide training and technical assistance to after-school programs that want to use national service and volunteers to help meet their needs.

Question: **Why is this important?**

Answer: We are building on what works. Today, communities use both volunteers and those

engaged in full-time service commitments such as AmeriCorps to extend the reach and improve the quality of many child care and after-school programs. These individuals work alongside child care providers, educators, and community-based professionals across the country. Two-thirds of national service programs supported by the Corporation for National Service, including AmeriCorps, address the needs of children and youth, many in child care and after-school programs. The To Learn and Grow Initiative will build on this experience to show programs across the country how to use volunteers and others engaged in service to provide better care to more children. In addition, the Initiative will show after-school programs how to involve participating youth in service activities, so that the youth themselves gain the benefits of serving others.

Question: **Why are you proposing that volunteers provide child care and after-school care when the real need is for high-quality, trained professionals? Aren't volunteers ill-equipped to do this?**

Answer: We need both. There is a great need for better trained professionals in child care, but volunteers and those engaged in national service like AmeriCorps can greatly enhance and expand after-school options. Volunteer organizations like Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA/YWCA's, and churches have a long history of providing high quality programs that have benefitted millions of children. In order to meet the need, we must tap the resources of many sectors.

OTHER CHILD CARE POLICY QUESTIONS

Question: **Can you explain the Child and Dependent Tax Credit? And can you tell us why it hasn't been adjusted for inflation since 1982? Is this something you are looking at?**

Answer: Working parents, who pay for the care of children under the age of 13, can reduce their income tax liability with the child and dependent care tax credit. Taxpayers can also claim the credit for the care of disabled spouses and dependents.

The credit can be applied to child care expenses of up to \$2,400 for one child and \$4,800 for two or more qualifying individuals. Married couples are generally only eligible for the credit if both the husband and wife work.

Regarding the question of an inflation adjustment: We are considering all options. This conference will explore how both the public and private sectors can respond to the need for safe, affordable, quality child care for Americans who are struggling to be both good parents and good workers.

Question: **Are there any incentives for businesses to provide child care?**

Answer: Yes. Currently, employers are allowed to exclude contributions for employer-provided child care expenses from employees taxable income.

Question: Will you propose national standards on health and safety?

Answer: As I said, nothing is off the table at this point, I will say that we realize that national standards are controversial, and we have found that the most successful efforts occur when the Federal government works hand-in-hand with States to improve and enforce high standards.

Child Care and Welfare Reform

Question: When the President signed welfare reform into law, he praised the child care provisions of the bill. Has he changed his mind? Does he now think those provisions were inadequate?

Answer: No, he has not changed his mind. When the President signed welfare reform into law, he praised the bill for spending \$4 billion more on child care to help mothers on welfare go to work. The President continues to believe that child care is a critical component of welfare reform. But what was done in the welfare law is not enough. Today's conference will examine child care from a broader perspective, looking at the impact it generally has on child development, school readiness, and our economy as a whole. As the President said to the National Governors' Association in July, he and the First Lady think child care is "the next great frontier if we're going to make sure all Americans can succeed at home and at work."

Question: The new welfare law provided a substantial increase in funding for child care. Are states spending the additional funds?

Answer: Every indication is that States are experiencing a high demand for child care and that States across the country have committed their own dollars in order to get the Federal share of the matching funds contained in the new welfare law.

Question: The new welfare law contained a significant increase in child care funds. Are new investments really needed?

Answer: Because child care is vital to the success of moving welfare recipients into work, the President fought hard to make sure that the welfare law contained increased funding. And because of the President's efforts, the welfare reform law provided an additional \$4 billion in child care subsidies to address the real problem of child care availability. As today's conference will show, there are still many low-and middle-income working families who have never been on welfare who cannot afford the child care they need. And much of the child care available is of poor quality, and does not do enough to prepare our children for the challenges of the 21st century. Greater investment, be it public or private, is definitely needed.

Question: How do you expect so many welfare recipients to go to work if there's not enough good quality child care available?

Answer: Funds are available to help families on welfare go to work --the welfare reform law provided an additional \$4 billion in child care subsidies to address this problem. But, as today's conference will show, there are still many low-and middle-income working families who have never been on welfare who cannot afford the child care they need.

Question: Are welfare recipients getting preferential treatment for child care subsidies over families who've always worked and played by the rules?

Answer: States have a great deal of flexibility in deciding which low income families receive child care subsidies. Many states are focusing their subsidies on very poor families making the transition from welfare to work. Some states --such as Illinois, Michigan, and Washington --have created seamless child care systems that help low income parents whether they used to be on welfare or not. In July, the President called this practice "a model that I hope one day we'll be able to have everywhere in America" in a speech before the National Governors' Association. Today's conference will explore these tough questions of how the public and private sectors can respond to the need for safe, affordable, quality child care for all American families who are struggling to be both good parents and good workers.

In addition, it's important to remember that one of the larger child care investments our nation makes is through the tax code, which assists non-welfare families through the child and dependent care tax credit.

Question: At the Conference, you talked about supporting parents who want to stay at home and care for their children. But in the welfare law, mothers are required to go to work. Isn't this a contradiction in philosophy?

Answer: It is true that parents accepting public monies will not have the choice to stay at home to care for their children. But that is perfectly consistent with helping self-supporting families deciding to get by on one income so that a parent can stay home. In addition, it is important to remember that the welfare law gives states flexibility to exempt mothers for a period of time so that they may stay home with young children; and many States have taken advantage of this provision.

Question: There are a lot of child care proposals on the Hill. For instance, Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Kit Bond (R-MO) announced yesterday an Early Childhood Development Act. Does the Administration support it?

Answer: We appreciate the commitment shown by many members of the House and Senate towards child care and early child development programs, and are pleased that many members are speaking here today and that the Conference will be watched by satellite on Capitol Hill. Additionally, White House staff have met and continue to meet with Members of both parties and congressional staff, to explore promising ways to improve child care in America. We look forward to continuing our working relationship.

CHILD CARE FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS

Question: How do Federal employees learn about their child care options?

Answer: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) assists Federal employees in locating appropriate care by providing the *Handbook of Child Care and Elder Care Resources* and refers employees to the ChildCare Aware toll-free number (a national number anyone can use) which helps locate child care resources and referral organizations in their area.

Employees of the Executive Office of the President are told about U.S. Kids, the child development center serving the Executive Office of the President, during first-day orientation. In addition, notices are posted electronically on the internal electronic bulletin board, as well as the (old fashioned) standard push pin bulletin boards.

Question: What are the child care options for parents who work at the White House?

Answer: Employees of the Executive Office of the President (EOP) have the option of enrolling their children in the nearby U.S. Kids Child Development Center, a center accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children. Additionally, White House parents may enroll their children in any of the 27 other Federal child care centers in the greater Washington, D.C. area. U.S. Kids serves employees of the EOP, the Export-Import Bank, the Treasury Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs and is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and has programs for children ages three months to five years. [Address: 1425 New York Avenue, phone: (202) 233-4623. Center Director: Sharon Hall Fleming]

Question: The President and First Lady tout the Military's Program. Why?

Answer: The DoD Child Care System serves over 200,000 children (age zero to 12) daily, making it the largest employer-sponsored child care program in the nation.

DoD Addresses the Comprehensive Needs of Parents: The DoD system, known as the Child Development Program, includes Child Development Centers, Family Child Care homes, School-Age Care programs, and Resource and Referral services. Through this system, the military offers full-day, part-day, and hourly child care, part-day preschools, before- and after-school programs for school age children, and extended hour care which includes nights and weekends to accommodate shift workers.

DoD's Child Care System has been Recognized for its Devotion to Excellence:

Because of the Department of Defense's commitment to excellence in child care, since 1992, the number of military child care facilities that are accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children has risen from 55 to 353. **Currently, over 75% of military child care programs are accredited, as compared to only 7% of other child care facilities nationwide.** Since the early '90s, the DoD

has focused on improving the quality, availability, and cost of child care for military families.

Question: Isn't it unrealistic to hold up the Military child care system as the model?

Answer: There are certain aspects of the DoD system that are unique. The Department of Defense as an employer invests significant funds into their system because providing for military personnel and their family needs benefits the overall readiness mission. Although DoD is unique, there are still lessons to be learned (including family day care networks, unannounced inspections, etc.) Because of the DoD's high quality, comprehensive child care programs, in April 1997, President Clinton directed the Secretary of Defense to share the expertise and lessons learned from the Military Child Development Programs with the civilian child care communities. DoD is doing just that. Defense Secretary Cohen recently sent a letter to the President outlining this effort.

Question: How does the civilian sector of the Federal Government rate?

Answer: There are more than 230 child care centers for civilian government employees in Federal buildings in as many as 36 states. The General Services Administration (GSA) oversees 108 of these centers, making GSA the largest civilian sponsor of work-site child care in the nation. Under this Administration, the emphasis on quality has continued with 73 percent of GSA sponsored centers accredited by the independent National Association for Education of Young Children, with a goal of reaching 100 percent accreditation within two years. Striving to meet the needs of parent workers, 89 percent of GSA centers have infant care, 74 percent have drop-in/emergency care and 42 percent provide summer programs for school aged children. In addition, more than 80 percent of centers are open 11 or more hours per day. Notably, nearly 70 percent of the child care center directors have ten or more years in early childhood education experience.

Question: One of the biggest barriers to finding quality child care is affordability. How is the Federal government addressing this issue?

Answer: The Federal Government, like the private sector, still faces challenges in providing affordable care to lower paid government employees. The General Services Administration, the largest civilian sponsor of work-site child care in the nation, has studied this problem intensively this year. It found that while employer-supported child care is a cost-effective investment, it requires steady, predictable funding. In May, GSA released a report to Congress outlining the need to increase revenues and enrollment, reduce operating costs, and expand the availability of tuition assistance for parents who can't afford to pay full fees.

At the Executive Office of the President, U.S. Kids, the nearby Federal child care facility, does provide a small tuition assistance program fund. [Presently, there are four children receiving need-based scholarships.]

Question: The Federal Government is often touted as a model employer. What are some of the innovations?

Answer: Under President Clinton's leadership, the Federal government, striving to be a model employer for other private and public employers, has implemented **family-friendly leave initiatives** that enhance the ability of employees to balance family and employment obligations. In addition to leave initiatives, the Federal government **offers compressed or flexible work schedules** to many workers so that they may spend more time with their families. The Administration also **supports telecommuting** where appropriate.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Question: Mark Fiedelholtz -- the father of Jeremy Fiedelholtz, an infant who died in a Florida child care center -- has been critical of the Administration, specifically your denying him a role in this conference. Do you have any comment?

Answer: Mr. Fiedelholtz has litigation pending in the state of Florida regarding the death of his infant son Jeremy. It is White House policy not to comment on any matters currently before the courts -- we must avoid the impression that we are attempting to influence the outcome of judicial proceedings.

The President and First Lady were saddened to learn of the Fiedelholtz's loss and sent the family a condolence note in May. Additionally, Mr. Fiedelholtz has been in contact with the White House Office of Agency Liaison which has provided Mr. Fiedelholtz with the name and phone number of an HHS Administration for Children and Families staffer who handles such cases.

Question: In Cambridge Massachusetts, a nineteen year-old British woman, in this country through an au pair program, is on trial for the murder of her young charge. Shouldn't these au pair programs be better regulated so qualified caregivers are taking care of our nation's children?

Answer: This case is currently before a Middlesex County Court and it is White House policy not to comment on any matters currently before the courts -- we must avoid the impression that we are attempting to influence the outcome of judicial proceedings.

The U.S. Information Agency, the agency that runs the au pair program announced in September (unrelated to this case) updated regulations regarding the screening and placement of au pairs. The updated regulations include: au pair participants who care for children under two years old must have 200 or more documented hours of infant-care experience; au pair training will include 24 hours of child-development instruction; au pairs will be limited to working 10 hours a day and 45 hours a week; their pay will increase from \$115 to 139.05 a week because of the increased minimum wage; and a more open process of verification of information has been put in place aiding the

selection and screening process of au pair participants.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED
MELANNE VERVEER

CC: THE FIRST LADY

RE: WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

On October 23, you and the First Lady will host the White House Conference on Child Care in the East Room. This memorandum outlines the purpose and structure of the conference, the policy initiatives that we recommend you announce at the conference, and the process and direction of our work on a child care proposal to unveil this winter.

Purpose and Structure of the Conference

The White House Conference on Child Care has two purposes. First, it will call national attention to an issue that political leaders and policy makers historically have ignored, notwithstanding its enormous importance to working families. Second, it will provide a basis from which to launch a child care initiative in the State of the Union. (As noted later in this memo, we will provide you with ~~policy~~ options for this initiative -- including a range of price tags -- as part of your normal budget process.)

The conference will address three critical child care challenges -- availability, affordability, and safety and quality. Many parents choose to stay at home and care for their children themselves. Yet millions of Americans, by choice or necessity, rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. The conference will explore how the public and private sectors can respond to the need that Americans struggling to be both good parents and good workers have for safe, affordable child care.

Morning Session. The morning session will begin with remarks by you and the First Lady and will include a video of children, parents, caregivers and others talking about child care. We believe your remarks should address the importance of child care for America's working families, note past Administration accomplishments on this issue, and announce several new policy initiatives as well as a commitment to unveil a broader child care proposal this winter.

You and the First Lady will then moderate a panel with two parts. The first three panelists will discuss why child care matters -- both to our children's development and to the nation's economy. The second four panelists will examine how well we are doing in meeting the challenge of assuring that good child care is available to working families. The first three panelists are:

- Ellen Galinsky, President, Families and Work Institute, who will discuss the relationship between quality child care and children's healthy development, particularly in the earliest years of life;
- Michelle Seligson, Founder and Director, National Institute on Out-Of-School Time, Wellesley College Center for Research on Women, who will discuss the importance of good after-school programs for youth;
- Secretary Rubin, who will discuss the need to address child care given dramatic changes in the workforce and economy.

The second four panelists are:

- Secretary Shalala, who will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of child care across the country;
- Governor James Hunt of North Carolina, who will discuss how states are doing in meeting the challenge of assuring that working families have access to safe, affordable child care;
- Dr. Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, who will discuss community efforts to meet this challenge;
- Patty Siegel, Executive Director, California Resource and Referral, who will share the experiences of parents.

Afternoon Session. The afternoon session will begin with remarks by the Vice President and Secretary Riley. The afternoon panel will consider the roles that states, business and labor leaders, the faith community, health care professionals, and others can play in addressing this challenge. The panelists include: Major General John G. Meyer, Jr., Chief of Public Affairs United States Army; Dr. Susan Aronson, Member, American Academy of Pediatrics; Jane Maroney, State Legislator, Delaware; Bishop Joseph Sullivan, Vicar of Human Services, Brooklyn, New York; and Doug Price, President, FirstBank of Colorado.

Agency and Satellite Sites. An additional 300 people will view the conference at three Federal agencies, and Secretaries Shalala, Riley, Glickman and Herman will host working sessions at these agency sites during the luncheon at the White House. In addition, the entire conference will be transmitted to satellite sites in at least 48 states. The Administration's

regional administrators have helped to organize these satellite conferences, and Cabinet Affairs has encouraged subcabinet officials to participate in them.

Policy Announcements to be Made at the Conference

We recommend that you indicate at the conference that you will propose a child care initiative in your State of the Union address and your fiscal year 1999 budget. We also recommend that you announce three policy proposals at the conference.

1. Child Care Working Group. You can name Secretary Rubin as chair of a working group on child care primarily made up of business leaders, with representation from labor and other community leaders. The Child Care Working Group would report to you within 45 days on efforts that business leaders should undertake to help working families overcome the challenge of managing child care and work responsibilities.

2. Scholarships for Child Care Workers and Background Checks on Child Care Workers. Experts link the quality of child care to the quality of the caregiver. Yet child care providers often receive little training, and occasionally have unsuitable backgrounds for the profession. You can announce steps to support caregivers by ensuring that they are able to afford adequate training. At the same time, you can urge Congress to pass and states to ratify the "National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact" to protect children from child care workers who have committed crimes.

Scholarships. To help child care workers afford training, you can instruct the Department of Education to develop an outreach plan to inform students and institutions of the potential availability of Pell Grants. You also can announce a new scholarship program for child care workers. Even with Pell and other education programs that you have put in place, many child care workers cannot afford training. The new program would provide assistance to full- or part-time students working toward a Child Development Associate Credential or other degree in child development who agree to remain in the child care field for at least one year.

Background Checks. You can also announce steps to make background checks on child care workers more effective. Today, many states prohibit the release of criminal history records for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations. The Department of Justice is prepared to transmit to Congress on October 23 the "National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact." The compact, which must be passed by Congress and ratified by the states, will enable states to share criminal history information for limited other purposes, including background checks on child care workers.

3. Service and School-Age Care. You can launch the "To Learn and Grow Partnership," a

partnership of public and private organizations that will work together to expand access to and improve the quality of after-school programs through service activities. The partnership will encourage national service participants and community volunteers to teach in child care programs, and will engage children in service as part of after-school programs. You also can release the "How-To Manual," describing how to integrate service and school-age care, identifying opportunities for children to learn through service, and highlighting programs that are currently using service to enrich out-of-school time.

Child Care Initiative To Be Announced After the Conference

For the past several months, the Domestic Policy Council and the First Lady's Office have been leading a policy process on child care. The National Economic Council, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury, Education, Labor, Defense, Justice, and Agriculture have participated.

We have identified three key areas: affordability; availability; and safety and quality. In the weeks after the conference, we will prepare a memorandum for you outlining policy options, of several different shapes and sizes, in these areas. We are also exploring ways to support parents who want to stay at home to care for their children.

Affordability. Increasing numbers of working families cannot afford decent child care, which can cost at least \$4,000 a year for one child, and even more for infants and toddlers. While the average family pays about 7 percent of its income for child care, low-income families spend about a quarter of their income.

- The Federal government spent \$2.9 billion in direct child care subsidies in fiscal year 1997 through the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), which provides payments for about one million children. HHS estimates, however, that we are currently providing child care subsidies to less than a quarter of the families eligible for them. In addition, the Dependent Care Tax Credit provides more than \$2 billion annually in tax relief for child care expenses. We are analyzing whether to expand either of these mechanisms.

Availability. Access to child care is a problem for low-income and middle-income families alike. We are looking at two areas of particular concern -- helping businesses expand on-site care for their employees, and helping states and communities increase their supply of school-age care. We are exploring whether to provide tax credits for businesses that build and operate child care centers for their employees (the Rubin-Weill working group may make additional suggestions). We also are looking at a variety of ways -- including simplifying Federal requirements and funding streams -- to help states and communities create an adequate supply of after-school programs.

Safety and Quality. The quality of child care in this country is too often mediocre or poor. A recent four state study of child care centers found that one in eight centers expose children to unsafe or unsanitary conditions. Infants and toddlers are at the greatest risk, with 40 percent in care that poses a threat to their health and well-being. Only 14 percent of centers provide high quality care -- care that actually enhances growth and development. A study of child care in family-based settings found equally disturbing patterns. Over one-third of programs are rated inadequate, meaning that quality is low enough to harm children's development, and only 9 percent offer high-quality care.

States are currently required to spend 4% of the funds they receive through the CCDBG on quality improvement. We are looking at ways to help states improve quality by providing additional funding to states that agree, for example, to improve and enforce health and safety standards, invest in training for caregivers, or create networks to support family day care providers. We are also developing a consumer information campaign to arm parents with the information they need to chose high quality care for their children.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

On October 23, the President and the First Lady will host the White House Conference on Child Care in the East Room of the White House, bringing together parents, caregivers, business leaders and child care experts. The conference will explore how the public and private sectors can respond to the need that Americans who are struggling to be both good parents and good workers have for safe, affordable child care.

Many parents choose to stay home and care for their children themselves. Yet millions of Americans, by choice or necessity, rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. The conference is intended to begin a dialogue on three critical child care issues -- access, affordability, and assuring safety and quality -- and to highlight the roles that everyone -- including communities, businesses, child care providers, Federal, state and local governments, and parents themselves -- can play in addressing these issues.

I. OPENING SESSION

II. PANEL DISCUSSION: ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY AND ASSURING SAFETY AND QUALITY

The President and First Lady will moderate this session.

Part 1: Why Does Safe, Affordable Child Care Matter? This panel will address: the relationship between quality child care and children's healthy development, particularly in the earliest years of life; the importance of good after-school programs for youth; and the need for child care given dramatic changes in the workforce and economy.

Part 2: How Are We Doing in Meeting the Challenge of Making Safe, Affordable Child Care Available to Working Families Who Need It? This panel will provide an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of child care in communities across the country and will also look at this question from the unique perspectives of parents and child care providers.

II. WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON AND WORKING SESSIONS AT FEDERAL AGENCIES

During the White House luncheon, Secretaries Shalala, Herman, Riley and Glickman will host working sessions at several agencies.

III. PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW DO WE MOBILIZE ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT SAFE, AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE FOR FAMILIES WHO NEED IT?

The Vice President and the First Lady will moderate this session. State and local officials, along with representatives of the military, business, health, labor, and faith communities, will highlight promising efforts around the country and discuss how all members of the community can address the challenges of assuring safe, affordable child care for working families who need it.

IV. SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION



Kris M Balderston

10/22/97 11:06:48 AM



Record Type: Record

To: David Shipley/WHO/EOP, June Shih/WHO/EOP, Laura K. Capps/WHO/EOP, Eli G. Attie/OVP @ OVP

cc: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

Subject: OVER 110 SATELLITE SITES FOR THE CHILDCARE CONFERENCE

David/June/ Laura/Eli

Could you please make sure that the POTUS, VPOTUS, and FLOTUS note the fact that the Childcare Conference is truly a national event. They should acknowledge that thousands of viewers will be participating in similar events in over 110 sites in 44 states.

They should also know that similar Washington-based sessions are taking place at HHS, DOL,, and USDA . Their secretaries will be going back to the agencies to discuss the am session.

The regional administrators have done a monumental job in getting this done so it would be wonderful if they could be acknowledged. (We forgot to do it for the Climate Chnage Conferences and they were not happy.)

Finally, congrats to Eric Dodds at GSA who once again got the job done for us.

Message Copied To:

Nicole R. Rabner/WHO/EOP
eric.dodds @ gsa.gov @ INET @ LNGTWY
Anne E. McGuire/WHO/EOP
Thurgood Marshall Jr/WHO/EOP
Elisabeth Steele/WHO/EOP
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Laura D. Schwartz/WHO/EOP
Jennifer L. Klein/OPD/EOP
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Child Care Conference - Satellite Contact List

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Allison Greene, New York NY, NJ, PR, VI	212-264-4600
Lynn Yeakel, Philadelphia WV, VA, DE, MD, PN	215-596-6492
Barbara Kelly, Atlanta FL, MS, AL, NC, SC, GA, TN, KY (Or Pat Ford-Roegner 404-331-2442)	404-562-2000
Hannah Rosenthal, Chicago OH, IN, IL, MI, WI, MN	312-353-5160
Sandra Walker, Kansas City NE, KS, IA, MO	816-880-4000
Pat Montoya, Dallas TX, OK, AR, LA, NM	214-767-3301
Margaret Cary, Denver ND, SD, CO, MT, UT, WY	303-844-3372
Grantland Johnson, San Francisco CA, HI, AZ, GU	415-437-8500
Carla Nuxholl, Seattle AK, WA, OR, ID	206-220-7802
Kimberly O'Connor Congressional Site	202-224-6770

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

I. OPENING SESSION

The First Lady welcomes and makes remarks.

Short video is presented (5 minutes) to provide child/provider/parent perspectives.

TBD Parent introduces the President.

The President makes remarks.

II. PANEL DISCUSSION: WHY DOES GOOD CHILD CARE MATTER AND WHAT DOES CHILD CARE LOOK LIKE IN OUR COUNTRY?

The President and First Lady moderate.

1. Why is Good Child Care Important?

- Ellen Galinsky, Families and Work Institute (young children)
- Michelle Seligson, National Institute for Out of School Time, Wellesley College (older children)
- Valora Washington, Kellogg Foundation (communities)
- Secretary Rubin (economy)

2. What Does Child Care Look Like in this Country?

- Secretary Shalala (national perspective)
- Marcy Whitebook, National Center for the Child Care Workforce (provider perspective)
- Patti Siegel, California Resource and Referral Network (parent perspective)

II. WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON/WORKING SESSIONS AT TBD FEDERAL AGENCIES

White House -- TBD Members of Congress will speak

Agencies -- Working sessions hosted by HHS, Education/Agriculture, Labor

III. PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW DO WE MOBILIZE ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE, QUALITY CHILD CARE?

The Vice President (t), Mrs. Gore (t), and the First Lady moderate.

-- State Perspectives

- Governor Hunt and TBD county official, North Carolina
- Jane Maroney, Republican State Legislator, Delaware

-- Career military commander/former head of military child care program

-- Doug Price, President, First Bank of Colorado, Chair, Colorado Business

Commission

- TBD Labor Leader (?)
- Susan Aronson, M.D., Member of American Academy of Pediatrics Board, and Director, PA Early Childhood Education Linkage Program for Health Professionals
- TBD Religious Leader
- Not-for-Profit Leader (?)

IV. SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION

Cabinet Secretaries report on working sessions held at Federal Agencies (?).
TBD Principals speak and close.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

On October 23, the President and the First Lady will host the White House Conference on Child Care to examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and explore how our nation can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality child care.

Two panel discussions will be held in the East Room of the White House. The morning panel will address why child care is important to our children's development and to the nation's economy. The afternoon panel will provide an overview of the state of child care in America and examine promising models nation-wide.

I. OPENING SESSION

The First Lady welcomes and makes remarks.

Short video is presented (5 minutes) to provide child/provider/parent perspectives.

TBD Parent introduces the President.

The President makes remarks.

II. PANEL DISCUSSION: WHY DOES GOOD CHILD CARE MATTER AND HOW DO WE KNOW IT WHEN WE SEE IT?

The President and First Lady facilitate.

1. Why is Child Care Important?

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and child development, and explains what makes child care good

- Ellen Galinsky, Families and Work Institute

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and building strong communities

- Michelle Seligson, Wellesley School Age Project

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and the economy/workforce

- Secretary Rubin ~~or~~ // Alexis Herman
- ~~David Blau, University of North Carolina~~

Communities
Lange Kellogg

2. What Is Good Child Care? Look like in America

- Legislator (TBD Republican state legislator)
- Child Care Provider (TBD)
- Parent (TBD)

+ Shalala
 - nat assn
 - head of revenue/reform in work

THE WHITE HOUSE

CONFERENCE ON

CHILD CARE

October 23, 1997

Staff Copy

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

October 23, 1997

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 - Child Care for Young Children: Demographics
 - Child Care for Young Children: Quality
 - Out-of-School Time
 - Economics of Child Care
- VIII. Articles**
 - "Who's Minding the Children?" Washington Post, October 22, 1997
 - "The Clintons' Day-Care Model: the Pentagon." U.S. News & World Report, October 27, 1997
 - "Clinton's to Tackle Child-Care Issues." USA Today, October 22, 1997

Briefing

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1997

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

DATE: October 23, 1997
LOCATION: The East Room
TIME: 9:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
FROM: Bruce Reed
Melanne Verveer

I. PURPOSE

To engage in a substantive discussion on child care with key policy-makers, experts, advocates, and community leaders.

Objectives for the Conference: (1) To call national attention to an issue that political leaders and policy-makers have traditionally ignored; (2) to prepare the way for a child care initiative in your next budget; and (3) to urge government and the private sector to address the significant challenge of ensuring that working families have access to safe, affordable child care.

II. BACKGROUND

The White House Conference on Child Care will bring together academic experts and economists; child care providers and advocates; religious, labor and business leaders; and parents. Several hundred additional people will attend sessions at three Federal agencies to watch the Conference proceedings by satellite and participate in working sessions with members of your Cabinet. The conference will also be broadcast live via satellite to more than 100 locations in at least 48 states. Mrs. Clinton will host a reception on the White House South Lawn at the conclusion of the conference for all those attending the White House and agency sessions.

The conference follows on a series of events that have included you, the First Lady, and other Administration officials, as well as years of involvement by you and the First Lady on child care. Recent events include your visit to a Head Start center in New Jersey; several appearances by the First Lady, including a visit to the Quantico Marine Base to view the military child care system, a round table discussion in Florida with business leaders involved in child care, and a speech at the University of Maryland; and numerous meetings with key constituencies hosted by members of the Domestic Policy team and the First Lady's staff.

Your opening remarks at the conference, however, will be your first opportunity to speak to the American people about this issue in a substantive way. In fact, you are the first President to address this issue seriously; focus group meetings with child care experts and advocates underscored the significance of your role in turning the nation's attention to this issue and recasting it as one in which all Americans have a stake. Your remarks will address the importance of good child care for America's working families, note past Administration accomplishments on this issue, announce several new policy initiatives and indicate your intent to unveil a child care proposal this winter.

Topics for Discussion: The conference will address three critical child care challenges -- availability, affordability, and safety and quality. You will be present for the morning session, which will include opening remarks by you and the First Lady, the presentation of a short video, and a panel discussion moderated by you and the First Lady. This panel discussion will be divided into two parts. First, panelists will discuss why child care matters -- both to our children's development and to the nation's economy. Second, panelists will examine how well (or badly) we are meeting the challenge of ensuring that safe, affordable child care is available to working families.

The afternoon panel discussion will be anchored by the First Lady, the Vice President, and Secretary Riley. This discussion will examine successful child care models across the nation and consider the roles that states, business and labor leaders, the faith community, health care professionals, and others can play in addressing critical child care challenges.

At the tabs that follow in this book, you will find a suggested script for each of the panels and bios of the panelists.

Policy Announcements: You will announce your intent to introduce a child care initiative as a part of your next budget proposal. In addition, you will announce several other initiatives (described in more detail in the attached October 20 memorandum):

- 1) The appointment of a Child Care Working Group that will report to Secretary Rubin on the role that business should play in providing child care:
- 2) An outreach plan to make child care workers aware of possible eligibility for Pell Grants, and a new scholarship program, of at least \$50 million per year, that will provide assistance to full- or part-time students who are working toward a Child Development Associate credential or another degree in child development and who agree to remain in the child care field for at least one year (this program will be modeled after Governor Hunt's T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps) Early Childhood Project):
- 3) The transmittal of the "National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact" to Congress, which will enable states to share criminal history information for limited other purposes, including background checks on child care workers: and

4) A strategy to expand access to and the quality of after-school programs through service activities, and the release of a "How-To Manual" describing how to integrate service and school-age care, identifying opportunities for children to learn through service, and highlighting programs that are currently using service to enrich out-of-school time.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Briefing Participants:

Bruce Reed, Melanne Verveer, Elena Kagan, Jennifer Klein, Nicole Rabner, June Shih

Event Participants:

Panel I (morning session moderated by YOU and the First Lady):

Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.
Michelle Seligson, Founder and Director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time.
Secretary Robert Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.
Secretary Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services.
Governor James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina.
Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.
Patty Siegel, Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

Panel II (afternoon session moderated by the Vice President and Mrs. Clinton):

Major General John G. Meyer, Chief of Public Affairs United States Army.
Jane Maroney, State Legislator, State of Delaware.
Dr. Susan Aronson, National Board, Member of the American Academy of Pediatrics.
Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, Vicar of Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn.
Beatriz Otero, Executive Director, Calvary Bi-Lingual Multicultural Learning Center.
John J. Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO.
Doug Price, President, FirstBank of Colorado.

Guests. The conference will be attended by approximately 150 guests, including: Members of Congress, Governors and other state and local officials, academic experts and economists, child care providers and advocates, religious, labor and business leaders, and parents. A complete guest list is attached.

VI. PRESS PLAN

Open Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- YOU and the First Lady proceed to the Red Room for briefing:
- YOU and the First Lady proceed to the Blue Room for meet and greet with panelists from both the morning and afternoon panel discussions:
- YOU and the First Lady are introduced into the East Room:
- The First Lady makes remarks and introduces a 5-minute video on child care:
- Video is shown:
- Kathy Carliner (parent) introduces YOU:
- YOU make remarks;
- YOU and the First Lady lead a panel discussion on "The Challenge: Availability, Affordability, and Assuring Safety and Quality Child Care":
- YOU make closing remarks:
- The First Lady makes closing remarks:
- YOU depart:
- The First Lady hosts a lunch in the State Dining Room:
- The First Lady and Vice President moderate the second panel -- "Learning From What Works"; and
- The First Lady hosts a reception on the South Lawn.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

Conference Agenda

Panel Descriptions, Participant Bios, and Scripts

List of Participants

Remarks

Background

--Fact Sheets on Child Care

--Overview Memorandum

Articles

Agenda

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE AGENDA OVERVIEW

10:00-10:30 am OPENING SESSION

- 10:00-10:10** The First Lady welcomes, makes remarks, and introduces video.
10:10-10:15 Video is shown.
10:15-10:17 Kathy Carliner (parent) introduces the President.
10:17-10:30 The President makes remarks.

10:30-12:00 pm PANEL DISCUSSION -- THE CHALLENGE: AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND ASSURING SAFETY AND QUALITY IN CHILD CARE

The President and First Lady will moderate this session.

Panelists:

- Ellen Galinsky**, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.
Michelle Seligson, Founder and Director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time.
Secretary Robert Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.
Secretary Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services.
Governor James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina.
Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.
Patty Siegel, Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

12:00-2:00 pm WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON AND WORKING SESSIONS AT FEDERAL AGENCIES

The First Lady will host the White House luncheon at which Members of Congress will speak. In addition, Secretaries Shalala, Herman, Riley and Glickman will host sessions at several agencies where guests will watch White House proceedings by satellite and participate in working meetings.

2:00-4:00 pm

AFTERNOON SESSION

2:00-2:05 The First Lady welcomes and introduces the Vice President.

2:05-2:15 The Vice President makes remarks and introduces Secretary Richard Riley.

2:15-2:20 Secretary Riley makes remarks.

PANEL DISCUSSION -- LEARNING FROM WHAT WORKS

The First Lady and Vice President will moderate this session.

Panelists:

Major General John G. Meyer, Chief of Public Affairs United States Army.

Jane Maroney, State Legislator, State of Delaware.

Dr. Susan Aronson, National Board, Member of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, Vicar of Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn.

John J. Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO.

Beatriz Otero, Executive Director, Calvary Bi-Lingual Multicultural Learning Center.

Doug Price, President, FirstBank of Colorado.

4:00-6:00 pm

SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION

The First Lady will host a reception for White House and Federal agency participants on the South Lawn. Mrs. Clinton will make remarks and report on the Federal agency working sessions. In addition, Members of Congress will make brief remarks.

Panelist Bios

The White House Conference on Child Care Panel One Participants

Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.

Before founding the Families and Work Institute, Ms. Galinsky served on the faculty of Bank Street College of Education and as President of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). She has been an advisor to the U.S. Department of Education on business and family involvement in education and to the U.S. Department of Labor. She has also served as an advisor to many states on their early education and care initiatives and on work and family issues.

The Families and Work Institute, is a non-profit, national center for policy research on issues of the changing workforce and changing family lives. Under Ms. Galinsky's leadership, the Families and Work Institute currently directs studies on the quality of child care in America and on the work, family and personal lives of U.S. workers. In addition to these studies, Ms. Galinsky, in conjunction with the National Governor's Association and the National Center for Children in Poverty, is involved in an effort to provide technical assistance to several states as they work to develop a comprehensive, integrated agenda for young children. She is also coordinating the outreach activities for a public awareness campaign on what families and communities can do to promote young children's healthy development and school-readiness.

Ms. Michelle Seligson, Founder and director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time, formerly the School-Age Child Care Project at Wellesley College Center for Research on Women.

Before founding the School-Age Child Care Project (*SACCP*), Ms. Seligson was the Assistant Director of the Human Relations/Youth Resources Commission of Brookline, MA, where she developed a city-wide system of parent-administered after-school programs in the public schools. The project gained national recognition and inspired the creation of the *SACCP*. *SACCP* serves as a research, training and policy institute focusing on how children spend their out-of-school time. The National Institute on Out-of-School Time's mission is to improve the quantity and quality of school-aged care programs nationally by concentrating its efforts in five primary areas: research, education and training, consultation, program and community development and public awareness.

Secretary Robert Rubin. Secretary of the Treasury.

Robert E. Rubin was sworn in as Secretary of the Treasury in January, 1995. From 1993-1995, he served in the White House as Assistant to the President for Economic Policy. In that capacity, he directed the National Economic Council, which oversees the Administration's domestic and international economic policymaking process, coordinates economic policy recommendations to the President and monitors the implementation of the President's economic policy goals. Prior to joining the Administration, Mr. Rubin spent 26 years at Goldman, Sachs & Co., in New York.

Secretary Donna Shalala.

Secretary Shalala was sworn in as the 18th Secretary of Health and Human Services in January, 1993. The Department of Health and Human Services leads the Administration's child care activities, coordinating Federal child care assistance through its Child Care Bureau.

Under Secretary Shalala's leadership, HHS is working to improve the health and safety of America's child care programs. For example, the Department launched the Healthy Child Care America Campaign to promote partnerships between child care and health agencies to ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments and receive the health services they need. In October 1996, HHS awarded \$2.5 million in grants to support and encourage the development of statewide strategies and planning for healthy, safe child care programs.

Governor James Hunt. Governor of North Carolina.

Governor Hunt, who is serving his fourth term as Governor of North Carolina, has led education reform efforts in his state and challenged all North Carolinians -- educators, business and community leaders, policy makers and parents -- to dedicate themselves to improving education state-wide. He set up the primary reading program, reduced class size, created dropout prevention programs, and established the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. He also successfully pushed to make kindergarten available to every North Carolina child.

Governor Hunt helped establish and still chairs the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which is working to boost excellence in teaching. In addition, he was recently named chairman of the National Education Goals Panel, which was set up in 1990 to monitor the progress of "Goals 2000," an achievement plan developed during a summit of the nation's governors. Governor Hunt also chairs the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, which promotes the teaching profession to young people.

For the next four years, Governor Hunt has laid out an *Agenda for Action* that focuses on giving children a healthy start in life and further improving North Carolina schools. *Smart Start*, the Governor's early childhood initiative, is providing higher quality day care, more day care slots, better trained teachers and preventive health screenings for thousands of North Carolina children. Governor Hunt was also critical in the establishment in 1990 of the T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher

Education And Compensation Helps) Early Childhood Project, which assists teachers, directors and family child care providers in completing coursework in early childhood education and increasing their compensation. The T.E.A.C.H. Project has provided scholarships to recipients in each of North Carolina's 100 counties and has since expanded to Georgia, Illinois, New York and Colorado.

Dr. Valora Washington. Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The author of six books and over forty publications, Dr. Washington joined the Kellogg Foundation after serving as Vice President and tenured professor of Antioch College in Ohio, and having held both faculty and administrative posts at other Universities throughout the country. She has received several honors for her work on behalf of children and families, most recently in February 1997 when she was named one of "25 most influential working mothers" by *Working Mothers Magazine*.

As Program Director for the Kellogg Foundation, she has created and managed a variety of initiatives in excess of \$86 million to work with communities on efforts to support children, youth and families.

Patty Siegel. Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (R&R Network).

Since 1970, Ms. Siegel has been actively involved in the development and delivery of child care services, combining perspectives as a teacher, as a parent-organizer and as the founding director of one of the nation's first child care resource and referral agencies, the Children's Council/Childcare Switchboard in San Francisco.

Since 1980, she has served as the Executive Director of the California Child Care Resource and Network (R&R Network), a private non-profit agency which represents and assists sixty-one local child care resource and referral agencies that help parents find child care. The R&R Network combines practical knowledge at the local level with extensive experience in working on state and national child care policy.

Ms. Siegel oversees the Child Care Initiative Project, a \$7 million dollar statewide public-private partnership to expand the supply of licensed quality child care by recruiting and training new family child care providers, with special emphasis on infants and toddlers and Spanish speaking communities. She was involved in the creation and implementation of TrustLine, California's registry of license-exempt caregivers.

The White House Conference on Child Care Panel Two Participants

Secretary Richard Riley. Secretary of Education.

Secretary Riley was sworn in as Secretary of Education in January, 1993. During the President's first term, Secretary Riley helped launch historic initiatives to raise academic standards; to improve instruction for the poor and disadvantaged; to expand federal grants and loan programs to help more Americans go to college; to prepare young people for the world of work; and to improve teaching. He also helped to create the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, which today includes over 3,000 groups. In the second term, Secretary Riley has helped win an historic ruling by the F.C.C. to give schools and libraries deep discounts for Internet access and telecommunications services and helped win major improvements in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Before joining the Clinton Administration, Secretary Riley was a State Representative and State Senator from 1963-1977, and served as Governor of South Carolina from 1978 to 1986.

Major General John G. Meyer, Jr. Chief of Public Affairs, United States Army.

Major General John G. "Gil" Meyer, Jr. formulates Army public affairs policies and advises the Secretary of the Army and other senior Army and Department of Defense officials on public affairs matters relating to the Army. Prior to heading the Public Affairs Department, General Meyer served as the Commanding General of the Army's Community and Family Support Center, overseeing all family programs, including child development programs. Under his leadership, the Army improved its child care programs, reaching a national accreditation rate of 85% (meaning that 85% of the Army's child care facilities were accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children) compared to the national average of 5%. Major General Meyer was also instrumental in the military's efforts to increase the supply of child care.

Jane Maroney. State Legislator, State of Delaware.

Jane Maroney has served in the Delaware House of Representatives for eighteen years, where her legislative responsibilities include Health and Human Development, Education, Joint Finance Committees and the Delaware Commission on Family Law.

As chair of a legislative task force on child care in 1984, she successfully led the establishment of a resource and referral agency, the Child Care Connection, now called the Family and Workshop Connection. She serves on the Board of Directors as well as the St. Michael's Day Nursery, founded in 1895, providing quality early care to inner city children in Wilmington.

Representative Maroney has taken a leadership role in public health and safety issues both on national and local levels. In addition to championing early care, her recognition of the need to strengthen Delaware families has led her to focus on infant mortality, AIDS prevention and education, unintended pregnancy, youth suicide prevention, child support, and related issues. She currently serves as the Speaker's designee from the House of Representatives to the Delaware Health Care Commission and as a member of its Cost Containment Committee.

Dr. Susan Aronson. Member, American Academy of Pediatrics, National Board.

Dr. Aronson's involvement with the American Academy of Pediatrics spans over twenty years, to her most recent position as a District Chairperson. As the director of the Pennsylvania American Academy of Pediatrics Early Childhood Education Linkage System, she runs a state-wide program to improve health and safety in child care programs by providing technical assistance, and by training and linking health professionals and early care and education professionals. She serves as the co-chair of the Central Steering Committee for the second edition of the National Standards for Health and Safety in Out-of-Home Child Care, a joint project of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Public Health Association and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of HHS. She has won numerous awards, most recently the Flashes of Brilliance - Gold Award for 1994, from the Academy for Health Services Marketing. Dr. Aronson is also a Primary Care Pediatrician at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, and a Clinical Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Hahnemann School of Medicine.

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan. Vicar of Human Services, Brooklyn, NY.

Ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Brooklyn in 1956, Bishop Sullivan was appointed Assistant Director of Child Welfare in Catholic Charities Diocese of Brooklyn in 1961. Later as Director of Child Care of the Diocese he was responsible for coordinating ten child caring agencies which provided foster care services for 9,000 to 10,000 children. These agencies handled adoption, foster family care services, and residential treatment centers. In 1967, Bishop Sullivan initiated the development of day care and Head Start programs in Brooklyn and Queens. Catholic Charities currently operates eighteen day care and Head Start programs and a Montessori day care program for children in the community and children of Chase Manhattan Bank employees. He has served as the Vicar for Human Services since 1980.

John J. Sweeney. President, AFL-CIO.

Mr. Sweeney was elected President of the AFL-CIO in 1995. Prior to rising to that position, Sweeney was Vice President of the AFL-CIO and Chair of the Executive Council committees on Health Care and Organizing and Field Services. In 1996, he authored *America Needs A Raise, Fighting for Economic Security and Social Justice*. He also co-edited the UNA-USA Economic Policy Council's *Family and Work: Bridging the Gap*.

Beatriz Otero. Executive Director, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center.

With over twenty years of experience designing and implementing community-based bilingual multicultural programs, Ms. Otero is the Founder and Executive Director of Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center, a child development, family centered organization. Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center provides early childhood and school-aged care to roughly 220 children, ages 2-14. Located in the Columbia Heights neighborhood, the Center's facility was donated in 1995 by Bell Atlantic, Washington, DC.

Ms. Otero has served as Program Director for early Childhood Programs at the Spanish Education Development (SED) Center and taught kindergarten in the DC Public Schools. A 1974 graduate in Education from the University of Maryland, Ms. Otero has taught at American University and the University of the District of Columbia. She has received numerous awards including the Betty Whaley Leadership Service Award from Leadership Washington and the Pioneer in Bilingual Education Award from the National Association on Bilingual Education. She serves as a member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Early Childhood Education and the Civic Council of DC Agenda, and is co-chair of the Columbia Heights-Shaw Family Support Collaborative.

Mr. Doug Price. President, FirstBank of Colorado, and Chair, Colorado Business Commission.

As chairman of Governor Roy Romer's Colorado Business Commission on Child Care Financing, Mr. Price is leading Colorado's effort to examine the needs of working parents and their children. The Commission has promoted business awareness through statewide meetings with corporate executives and the Governor, to discuss the economic and social benefits of employers creating parent friendly work places. He also serves as President of the Food Bank of the Rockies, a non-profit food distribution agency in Colorado, which annually handles over 10 million pounds of donated food and provides an estimated 700,000 meals each month. He serves as chairman of the Center City Housing Council of the Downtown Denver Partnership.

Guest List

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President's List

LUNCHEON & CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE - Thursday OCT 23 1997 - 9:30 AM White House -
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THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Pamela Nadine Abrams

Parents Magazine
New York, NY

Hon. (Rep.) Thomas H. Allen

(D/Maine), House of Representatives

Dr. Susan Aronson

American Academy of Pediatrics

Mr. Douglas Baird

President & CEO, Associated Day Care Services
Boston, MA

Hon. David J. Barram

Administrator, General Services Administration
Washington, DC

Ms. Rebecca Barrera

President, National Latino Children's Institute
Austin, TX

Mr. Jay Belsky

Penn State University
University Park, PA

Mrs. Helen Benham

Scholastic, Inc.
New York, NY

Ms. Gail Birch

Provider's Choice Inc.
Minneapolis, MN

Ms. Helen Blank

Director of Child Care, Children's Defense Fund
Washington, DC

Mr. David Blau

Professor of Economics, University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

Hon. Daniel T. Blue

Speaker, North Carolina State Legislature
Raleigh, NC

Ms. Mary Bourdette

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation, US Department of Health & Human Services
Washington, DC

Dr. Barbara Bowman

Erikson Institute for Advanced Study of Childhood Development
Chicago, IL

Dr. Thomas Berry Brazelton

Professor Emeritus, Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Guest: **Ms. Maureen O'Brien**

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REPORT DATE: October 22, 1997
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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Paula Broglio
Maryland English Institute

Hon. Yvonne Burke
County Supervisor, Los Angeles County
Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Bettye M. Caldwell
Professor of Pediatrics, Arkansas Children's Hospital
Little Rock, AR

Ms. Nancy "Duffy" Campbell
President, National Women's Law Center
Washington, DC

Ms. Kathryn Carliner

Ms. Mildred "Ticia" Casanova
Director, Via Nova School
Berkeley, CA

Mr. Dennis Van Roekel (Substitute for: Robert Chase)
NAE Executive Education Committee member and school teacher, Phoenix Schools
Phoenix, AZ

Mr. John T. "Ted" Childs
Vice President, IBM Corporation
Armonk, NY

Hon. (Rep.) William "Bill" L. Clay
D/Missouri, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Hon. (Mayor) Emanuel Cleaver
Mayor, City of Kansas City
Kansas City, MO

Ms. Ellen Clippinger
President, National School Age Care Alliance
Indianapolis, IN

Ms. Cathy Collette
AFCSME

Mr. Dwayne Crompton
Executive Director, KCMC Child Development Corporation
Kansas City, MO

Ms. Angela Crowley
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates & Practitioners
New Haven, CT

Ms. Judsen Culbreth
Editor, Working Mother Magazine
New York, NY

Accepts and No Responses

Hon. (Rep.) Rosa DeLauro
D/Connecticut, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Ms. Christine M. DeVita
President, DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund
New York, NY

Hon. (Sen.) Christopher J. Dodd
D/Connecticut, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Dr. Alice Duff
Executive Director, Crystal Stars, Inc.
Los Angeles, CA

Ms. Deborah Eaton
President, Family Day Care Association
Spring Valley, CA

Ms. Marian Wright Edelman
President, Children's Defense Fund
Washington, DC

Ms. Katherine Erickson
Executive Director, Path Finder Family Center
Minot, ND

Ms. Elaine Fersh
Director, Parents United for Child Care
Boston, MA

Mr. Dewayne Foskey
President, National Childcare Association
Conyers, GA

Honorable Diane B. Frankel
Director, Institute of Museum Services
Washington, DC

Ms. Ellen Galinsky
Co-President, Families & Work Institute
New York, NY

Hon. (Rep.) Benjamin A. Gilman
R/New York, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Honorable Daniel Glickman
Secretary of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture

Hon. Olivia Golden
Assistant Secretary, Dept. of HHS
Washington, DC

Ms. Deanna Gomby
Los Altos, CA

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Accepts and No Responses

Hon. Albert M. Gore

Ms. Sarah Greene

Chief Executive Officer, National Head Start Association, Partnership Project
Alexandria, VA

Ms. Annie Burr Griffin

Zero to Three National Center
Washington, DC

Ms. Eleanor Gugenheimer

Founder, Child Care Action Campaign
New York, NY

Ms. Peggy Haack

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, Resource Specialist
Madison, WI

Hon. Jane Hague

County Supervisor, King County, Washington
Seattle, WA

Dr. David Alan Hamburg

President, Carnegie Corporation of New York
New York, NY

Dr. John Julian Hamre

Comptroller, U.S. Department of Defense
Washington, DC

Dr. Robert E. Hannemann

National President, American Academy of Pediatrics
Lafayette, IN

Mr. Irving Harris

Chairman, The Harris Foundation
Chicago, IL

Mr. William Harris

Harris and Lloyd
Cambridge, MA

Ms. Geraldine "Geri" Henchy

Senior Policy Analyst, Food Research & Action Center
Baltimore, MD

Dr. Bobby Henderson

The Center on the Family
Houston, TX

Hon. Alexis M. Herman

Secretary of Labor, Department of Labor

Ms. Sandra Hofferth

Research Scientist, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research
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Accepts and No Responses

Hon. (Gov.) James B. Hunt
Governor of North Carolina (D), State of North Carolina
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Dr. Brenda Hunter
Office of Hon. Dan Coats

Hon. (Rep.) Sheila Jackson-Lee
D/Texas, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Hon. (Sen.) James M. Jeffords
R/Vermont, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Hon. (Rep.) Nancy L. Johnson
R/Connecticut, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Hon. Elena Kagan
Dept. of HHS

Prof. Sharon Lynn Kagan
President, Yale University/Bush Center
New Haven, CT

Ms. Barbara Kamara
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Washington, DC

Dr. Augusta Kappner
President, Bank Street College
New York, NY

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
D/Massachusetts, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Mr. Charles E.M. Kolb
President, Committee for Economic Development
New York, NY

Ms. Charlotte Koskoff
Plainville, CT

Ms. Deena Lahn
Executive Director, Child Care Law Center
San Francisco, CA

Dr. J. Ronald Lally
Director, Center for Child & Family Studies
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Accepts and No Responses

Hon. Joan W. Lawrence
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Columbus, OH

Hon. (Rep.) Sander M. Levin
D/Michigan, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Dr. Michael Levine
Program Officer, Carnegie Corporation of New York
New York, NY

Mr. David Liederman
Executive Director, Child Welfare League of America
Washington, DC

Dr. Eileen Lindner
National Council of Churches
New York, NY

Dr. Joan Lombardi
Associate Commissioner, HHS, Child Care Bureau
Washington, DC

Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney
D/New York, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Hon. Jane Maroney
Wilmington, DE

Ms. Prema Mathai-Davis
CEO, YWCA
New York, NY

Mr. Matthew E. Melmed
Executive Director, Zero to Three National Center for Infants
Washington, DC

Mr. David Mercer
CEO, YMCA
Washington, DC

MajGen John Meyer

Ms. Elva Montalbo
Executive Director, Community for Hispanic Children & Family
New York, NY

Ms. Evelyn K. Moore
Executive Director, National Black Child Development Institute
Washington, DC

Ms. Gwen Morgan
Wheelock College
Boston, MA

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Accepts and No Responses

Mrs. Anna Murdoch
President, Children's Institute International
Los Angeles, CA

Ms. Ann Pleshette Murphy
Parents, Editor in Chief
New York, NY

Mr. Sanford Newman
President, Fight Crime, Invest in Kids
Washington, DC

Hon. (Rep.) Eleanor Holmes Norton
ID/District of Columbia, US House of Representatives

Ms. Karen Nussbaum
Director, Women's Program, AFL-CIO
Washington, DC

Ms. Beatriz Otero-Lemos
Calvary Bilingual Learning Center
Washington, DC

Mr. Brian Seibenlist (Substitute for: Carol Peck)

Dr. Carol Brunson Phillips
Executive Director, Council on Early Childhood Professional Recognition
Washington, DC

Dr. Deborah Phillips
Staff Director, Children, Youth & Families, National Research Council
Washington, DC

Honorable Patricia Piper
State Senator, State of Minnesota
St. Paul, MN

Honorable Marilyn Praisner
Council Member, Montgomery County Council
Rockville, MD

Mr. Douglas M. Price
President, First Bank of Colorado
Lakewood, CO

Hon. Bruce N. Reed
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, The White House

Mr. Robert Reiner
President, Reiner Foundation
Beverly Hills, CA
Guest: Mr. Chad H. Griffin

Ms. Barbara Reisman
Schuman Fund of New Jersey
Montclair, NJ

Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Nan H. Rich
National President, National Council of Jewish Women
Washington, DC

Hon. (Rep.) Frank Riggs
R/California, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Hon. Richard W. Riley
Secretary of Education, Department of Education

Mr. Charles Romeo (Substitute for: Bruce Rohde)

Hon. (Gov.) Roy R. Romer
Governor of Colorado (D), State of Colorado
Denver, CO

Mrs. Marni Lachman Roosevelt
Valley Glen, CA

Mrs. Irma Margarita Rossello
San Juan, PR

Hon. Robert E. Rubin
Secretary of the Treasury, Department of the Treasury
Washington, DC

Ms. Dana Friedman (Substitute for: Marguerite Sallee)
Co-President, Families & Work Institute
New York, NY

Dr. Samuel G. Sava
Executive Director, National Association of Elementary School Principals
Alexandria, VA

Ms. Michelle Seligson
Executive Director, Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College
Wellesley, MA

Honorable Donna E. Shalala
Secretary of Health & Human Services, Department of Health & Human Services

Ms. Sarah Cardwell Shuptrine
President, The Southern Institute on Children & Families
Columbia, SC

Ms. Patty Siegel
CA Child Care Resource & Referral
San Francisco, CA

Ms. Cynthia Sikes
Los Angeles, CA

Hon. Rodney E. Slater
Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation
Washington, DC

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Marilyn Smith

Executive Director, National Association for Education of Young Children
Washington, DC

Honorable Gene B. Sperling

Deputy Assistant To The Presid, The White House
Washington, DC

Hon. (Rep.) Debbie Stabenow

(Michigan), House of Representatives

Mr. Richard B. Stolley

President and CEO, Child Care Action Committee and Time Warner
New York, NY

Dr. Linda Stone

University of South Florida
Winter Park, FL

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan

Vicar of Human Services
Brooklyn, NY

Mr. Ken Svedjan

State Representative, State of North Dakota
Bismark, ND

Mr. John J. Sweeney

President, AFL-CIO
Washington, DC

Ms. Ruby Takaneshi

Foundation for Child Development
New York, NY

Ms. Helen H. Taylor

Director, Head Start Bureau, Dept. of HHS
Washington, DC

Dr. Linda Thompson

Maryland State Office for Children, Youth & Families
Baltimore, MD

Mr. Dean Tice

Executive Director, National Association of Recreation and Parks
Washington, DC

Dr. William Tobin

Executive Director, Early childhood Legislation Coalition

Ms. Deborah Vandell

Child Care Researcher and Expert, University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI

Hon. Melanne Verveer

Assistant to the President & Chief of Staff to the First Lady, The White House

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Yasmina Vinci

Executive Director, National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Washington, DC

Ms. Meredith Wagner

Senior Vice President, Lifetime Television Network
New York, NY

Ms. Kate Warren

Director, Family Resource Center
Oakland, CA

Dr. Valora Washington

Program Officer, W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI

Ms. Claudia Wayne

Director, National Center for the Early Childhood Workforce
Washington, DC

Mr. Sanford Weil

CEO, Travelers Group
New York, NY

Dr. Heather Weiss

Director, Harvard University Child Care and Development
Cambridge, MA

Ms. Bernice Weissbourd

President of Family Focus, Family Resource Coalition
Chicago, IL

Ms. Lynn White

National Child Care Association
Conyers, GA

Mr. William White

President, Mott Foundation
Flint, MA

Dr. Marcia "Marcy" Whitebook

Researcher, National Center for Early Childhood Workforce
Washington, DC

Ms. Gail Wilson

President, National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Engelwood, CO

Ms. Janet Wise

Chairperson, National Indian Child Care Association
Okmulgee, OK

Ms. Faith A. Wohl

National Performance Review

Hon. (Rep.) Lynn C. Woolsey

D/California, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

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Accepts and No Responses

Dr. Edward Zigler

Professor of Psychology, Yale University Bush Center for Child Development in Social Policy
New Haven, CT

Ms. Elaine Zimmerman

Executive Director, Connecticut Commission on Children
Hartford, CT

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Script

**The White House Conference on Child Care
Panel One**

**THE CHALLENGE: AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND
ASSURING SAFETY AND QUALITY IN CHILD CARE**

Participants

The President

The First Lady

Ms. Ellen Galinsky

Ms. Michelle Seligson

Secretary Robert Rubin

Secretary Donna Shalala

Governor James Hunt

Dr. Valora Washington

Ms. Patty Siegel

The White House Conference on Child Care

Suggested Script

MORNING SESSION

THE FIRST LADY welcomes, makes remarks, and introduces video.

Video (5 minutes) is shown.

Kathy Carliner (parent featured in video) introduces the *PRESIDENT*.

The *PRESIDENT* makes remarks.

The *PRESIDENT* and *FIRST LADY* join PANEL DISCUSSION.

PANEL DISCUSSION -- The Challenge: Availability, Affordability, and Assuring Safety and Quality in Child Care.

THE FIRST LADY will introduce the seven members of the panel:

Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.

Michelle Seligson, Founder and Director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time.

Secretary Robert Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.

Secretary Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Governor James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina.

Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Patty Siegel, Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

Part I: WHY IS CHILD CARE IMPORTANT?

The *FIRST LADY* introduces the first part of the panel: **We are first going to hear from three experts on why child care matters. First, Ellen Galinsky will address why child care is important to our young children and what good care looks like. Second, we will hear from Michelle Seligson, about the importance of after-school opportunities to our nation's youth. And lastly, we will hear from Secretary Rubin about the significance of child care to our economy.**

Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute.

Lead in question for the *FIRST LADY*: **Ellen Galinsky is going to start off by addressing why child care is important for young children and tell us a little bit about recent research in neuroscience and child development.**

Suggested follow-up for the *PRESIDENT*: **There are some who suggest that parents are the only good caregivers for children and, therefore, child care is harmful to children's development. Would you please address that?**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **Please speak more about how we can all do a better job of empowering parents to make choices about working and child care that are best for their families. In particular, what are your views about how we can support parents who want to stay home?**

Michelle Seligson - Founder and director, National Institute on Out-of-School Time, formerly the School-Age Child Care Project at Wellesley College Center for Research on Women.

Lead-in for the *PRESIDENT*: **Let's turn now to Michelle Seligson to tell us about the importance of programs for school-age children for their development, school-readiness, and safety.**

Suggested follow-question for the *FIRST LADY*: **I know there is quite a debate over where before and after school programs should be located -- in schools, in community centers, or in church basements -- and how they should be funded. Can you speak to that?**

Suggested follow-up for the *PRESIDENT*: **Can you speak more about the components of a good after-school program. Are after school programs are only valuable if they're academically oriented?**

Secretary Robert Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.

Lead-in for the *FIRST LADY*: **I'm now going to ask Secretary Rubin to address the significance of child care to our nation's economy.**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **Looked at from a broad economic perspective, how does the issue of child care affect our ability to bring all Americans into the economic mainstream?**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **Experts say that the child care market is fundamentally flawed. The cost of child care far outweighs the ability of most parents to pay for it. Can you speak to the limitations of the marketplace to solve this dilemma?**

Part II: HOW ARE WE DOING IN MEETING THE CHALLENGE:

The **FIRST LADY** will introduce the next section: **We are now going to turn to four experts who will address how we are doing in meeting the challenge of assuring that working families have access to safe, affordable child care. Secretary Shalala will provide an overview of child care across the nation. Governor Hunt will address the issue from a state perspective. Valora Washington will tell us what communities are doing. Patty Siegel will provide insights into child care on the front lines.**

The panelists are:

Secretary Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Governor James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina.

Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Patty Siegel, Executive Director, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

Secretary Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Lead-in for the **FIRST LADY**: **Secretary Shalala, please begin by giving us an assessment and overview of how we're doing as a nation.**

Suggested follow-up for the **FIRST LADY**: **How has Head Start been effective in meeting child care needs, and what can we learn from the Head Start experience?**

Governor James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina.

Lead-in for the **PRESIDENT**: **We'll now hear from Governor Hunt, who has done so much in his state of North Carolina. Governor Hunt?**

Suggested follow-up for the **PRESIDENT**: **Governor Hunt, if we target efforts to improve quality, do we risk pricing care out of the reach of working families? Have you faced this problem in North Carolina?**

Suggested follow-up for the **FIRST LADY**: **By law, states must set aside a portion of their federal child care dollars for efforts to improve quality. The President fought hard for this provision in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act. Should the Federal government do more to encourage states to make needed health and safety improvements?**

Valora Washington, Program Director, W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Lead-in for the **FIRST LADY**: **Now let's hear from Valora Washington about how communities are doing in addressing child care needs.**

Suggested follow-up for the **FIRST LADY**: **How can we begin to engage those in communities who don't think this issue affects them?**

Suggested follow-up for the **PRESIDENT**: **You've talked a lot about the importance of community investment in child care. Would you also speak about the cost to communities of making that investment?**

Patty Siegel, Executive Director, Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

Lead-in for the **PRESIDENT**: **Patty Siegel will now discuss what is arguably the most important perspective -- parents.**

Suggested follow-up for the **FIRST LADY**: **You were involved in creating TrustLine - a system in California for checking the backgrounds of child care providers. Can you talk about TrustLine and, more generally, about background checks and registries?**

Suggested follow-up for the **PRESIDENT**: **In this country we talk a lot about family values, but we need ask ourselves whether we are giving parents the tools they need to make the choices that are best for them and their families. What can we do to help parents who want to stay at home?**

The **PRESIDENT** makes closing remarks.

The **FIRST LADY** makes closing remarks, and invites guests to lunch in the State Dining Room.

Suggested close for the **FIRST LADY**: **I'm so pleased that several members of the President's Cabinet -- Secretary Glickman, Secretary Herman, Secretary Shalala, and Secretary Rubin -- will now host working sessions at three Federal agencies.**

**The White House Conference on Child Care
Panel Two**

LEARNING FROM WHAT WORKS

Participants

The First Lady

The Vice President

Secretary of Education Richard Riley

Major General John G. Meyer

Ms. Jane Maroney

Dr. Susan Aronson

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan

Mr. John J. Sweeney

Ms. Beatriz Otero

Mr. Doug Price

The White House Conference on Child Care Panel Two

Suggested Script

AFTERNOON SESSION

The *FIRST LADY* welcomes and introduces the seven panelists:

Major General John G. Meyer, Chief of Public Affairs, United States Army.

Ms. Jane Maroney, State Legislator, State of Delaware.

Dr. Susan Aronson, Member, National Board, American Academy of Pediatrics.

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, Vicar of Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn, NY.

John J. Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO

Ms. Beatriz Otero, Executive Director, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center.

Mr. Doug Price, President FirstBank of Colorado, and Chair, Colorado Business Commission.

The *FIRST LADY* introduces the *VICE PRESIDENT*.

The *VICE PRESIDENT* makes remarks and introduces **Secretary Richard Riley**.

Secretary Richard Riley makes opening presentation.

PANEL DISCUSSION: Learning From What Works.

The *FIRST LADY* introduces the panel discussion: **The purpose of this discussion is to learn from successful models. Gathered with us here are representatives of many sectors of society to address what roles they can and do play in addressing and meeting child care needs.**

General Meyer, Chief of Public Affairs United States Army.

Lead-in for the *FIRST LADY*: **We'll begin by hearing from Major General Meyer. I am particularly happy to have him with us today, to discuss the strength of the military's child care programs, because I was privileged to visit Quantico Marine Base recently. Major General Meyer, please tell us about how the military has succeeded in making its child care programs so strong.**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: In April, at the White Conference on Early Childhood Development, the President held up the military as an exemplary model of child care delivery. There, the President asked the Department of Defense to share its expertise. Can you tell us what you've done to carry out that request?

Suggested follow-up for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: Major General, as you know, some argue that the military is not a useful model because of the unique characteristics of the military and because of the amount the government spends on it. What are your thoughts on this?

Jane Maroney, State Legislator, Delaware.

Lead-in for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: We'll now turn to Jane Maroney for another perspective of the role of states in improving child care.

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: What do you think our next steps should be as a nation; more specifically, how do you think the Federal government should work with and assist the states?

Dr. Susan Aronson, Member, National Board, American Academy of Pediatrics.

Lead-in for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: Dr. Susan Aronson is with us to address the role health professionals can play in improving the quality of child care, with special attention to health and safety.

Suggested follow-up for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: How can the health community help to address the needs of children in child care with chronic illnesses like asthma or with disabilities?

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: National health and safety standards have been very controversial. Can you address both the benefits and the disadvantages of national standards on health and safety? I'd also like to ask Jane Maroney to address this issue.

Bishop Joseph Sullivan, Vicar of Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn, NY.

Lead-in for the *FIRST LADY*: Bishop Sullivan is with us to discuss the role of the faith community in addressing child care and supporting families.

Suggested follow-up for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: Religious institutions have long contributed to meeting child care needs. In your view, how can we build on these efforts and engage religious leaders to use their moral authority in communities to make further progress?

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **Based on your experiences working in New York, what are the particular challenges of working in the inner city?**

John J. Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO.

Lead-in for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: **We will now hear from John Sweeney who will discuss the role of the labor community in meeting the child care needs of working families.**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **You've mentioned that the best arrangements are those in which business and labor work in partnership. Can you give an example of where that has worked?**

Suggested follow-up for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: **As we've learned, the key to quality child care is the caregiver. Tell us about the child care workforce and what we can do to support and retain workers.**

Beatriz Otero, Executive Director, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center.

Lead-in for the *FIRST LADY*: **Beatriz Otero is with us to talk about the role and responsibility of child care providers -- both in the workplace and the community. Beatriz?**

Suggested follow-up for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: **Tell us about a typical day at your center.**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **What are your thoughts on how we can continue to support the many providers you represent? What should our next steps be?**

Doug Price President, FirstBank of Colorado, and Chair, Colorado Business Commission.

Lead-in for the *VICE PRESIDENT*: **I am pleased to turn to Doug Price who has participated in one of the family conferences that Tipper and I host. He's with us today to discuss the role of business leaders in meeting child care needs. Doug, please tell us how you've become involved and what you and Governor Romer are doing in Colorado.**

Suggested follow-up for the *FIRST LADY*: **How can we enlist more business leaders to address the child care needs of their workers and of the communities in which they have a presence?**

Suggested follow-up for the ***VICE PRESIDENT***: **How can we address the barriers that small businesses face in addressing child care issues?**

The ***VICE PRESIDENT*** makes closing remarks.

The ***FIRST LADY*** makes closing remarks and invites guests to South Lawn Reception.

SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION

The FIRST LADY welcomes and makes brief remarks, reporting on working sessions of Cabinet members from the different agencies, and introduces Members of Congress.

Members of Congress make remarks.

The First Lady makes closing remarks.

Remarks

Fact Sheets

A Profile of the Child Care Work Force

Approximately three million child care teachers, assistants, and family child care providers in the U.S. care for 10 million children each day.

Who are the child care teaching staff?

- 97% are female
- 41% have children
- 10% are single parents

● Child care teaching staff earn an average of \$6.89 per hour or \$12,058 per year (based on 35 hours per week and 50 weeks per year) (data from *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers*, Technical Report 1995, salary data are in 1993 dollars).

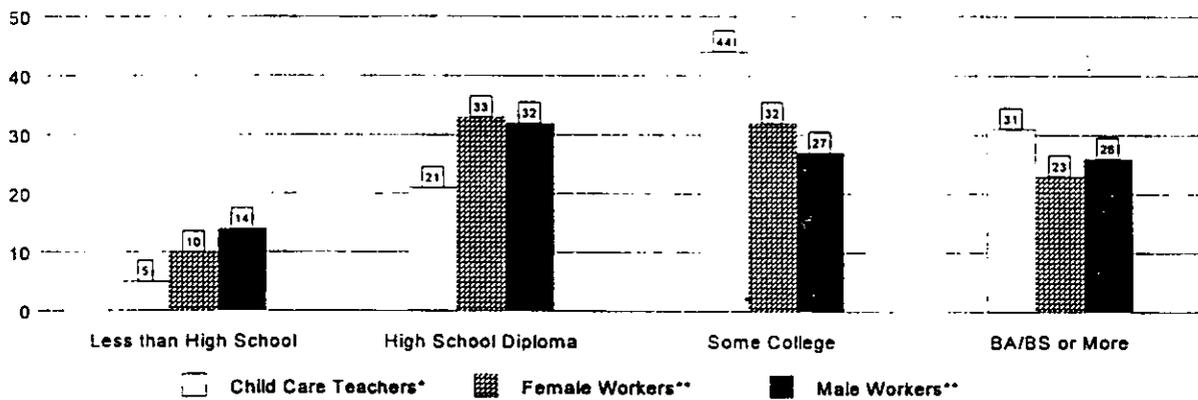
● Only 18 percent of child care centers offer fully paid health coverage to teaching staff.

● Although they earn lower wages, child care teachers are better educated than the general population.

● One-third of all child care teachers leave their centers each year.

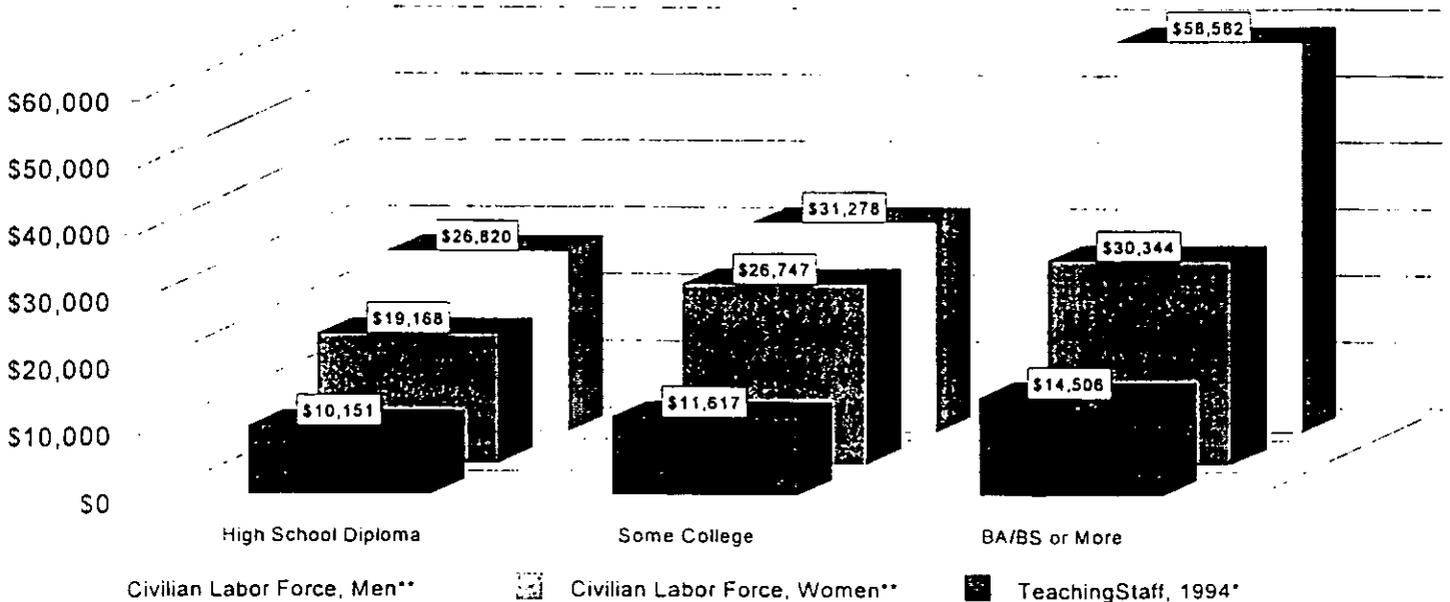
● Family child care providers who care for and educate young children in their homes also have very low earnings. Providers earn \$9,528 annually after expenses (data from *The Economics of Family Child Care Study*, a forthcoming publication from Wheelock College, earnings in 1996 dollars). Unregulated providers, who care for fewer children and are offered fewer supports, earned just \$5,132 after expenses.

Education of Child Care Teaching Staff Versus All Workers***



*National Child Care Staffing Study **Current Population Surveys, 1995. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Annual Wages of Child Care Teaching Staff Versus All Workers***



*National Child Care Staffing Study, wages in 1995 dollars **Current Population Surveys, 1996. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

***These charts only provide information on center-based teaching staff.

Child Care for Young Children: Demographics

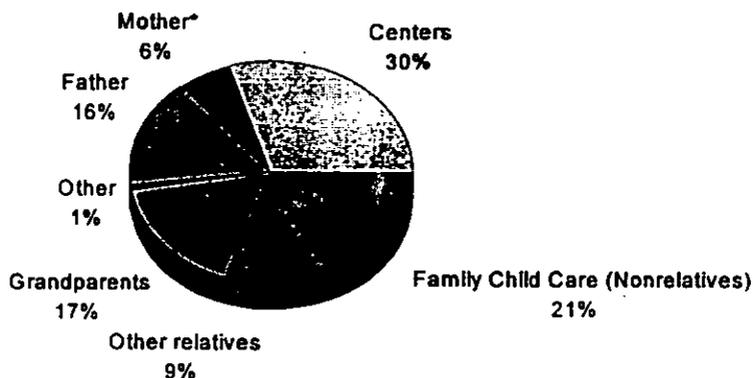
● According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 1995 there were approximately 21 million infants, toddlers, and preschool children under the age of six in the U.S., more than 12.9 million of these children were in child care.[†]

● While use of center-based care increased from 1988 to 1993, most young children are still in a home-based setting, including family child care.^{**}

● Forty-five percent of children under age one were in child care on a regular basis.[†]

Primary Child Care Arrangements Used by Families with Employed Mothers for Preschoolers: 1993

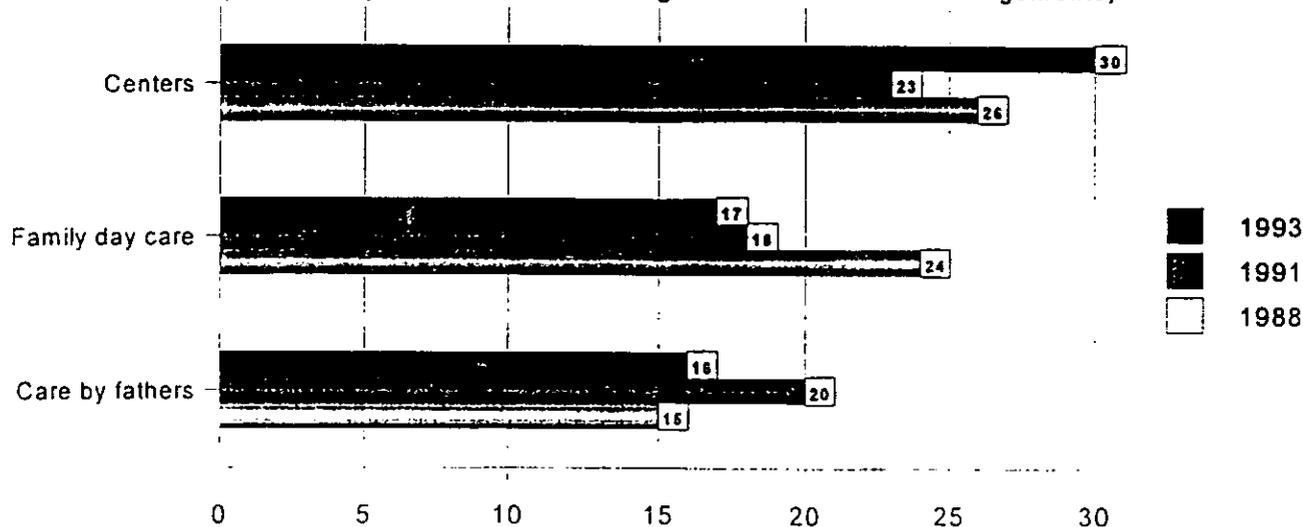
(Percent of preschoolers of working mothers in selected arrangements)



* Includes mothers working at home or away from home. Source: Casper, L.M. *Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 53, Washington, DC 1996

Changes in Selected Child Care Arrangements: 1988 to 1993

(Percent of preschoolers of working mothers in selected arrangements)



Source: Casper, L.M. *Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 53, Washington, DC 1996

This profile of child care demographics has been excerpted from information provided by the [†] National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education and the ^{**}U.S. Bureau of the Census.

For additional information, contact the National Child Care Information Center at (800) 616-2242 or visit the Web site at <http://ericps.crc.uiuc.edu/nccic/nccichome.html>

Child Care for Young Children: Quality

"Recent brain research suggests that warm, responsive child care is not only comforting for an infant; it is critical to healthy development."

*- Rethinking the Brain: New Insights into Early Development
Families and Work Institute (1997)*

- **Higher quality child care for very young children (0 to 3) was consistently related to high levels of cognitive and language development.** "Mother-Child Interaction and Cognitive Outcomes Associated with Early Child Care", NICHD Early Child Care Research Network (1997)
- **Studies have raised concerns about the quality of care:**
 - A four-state study of quality in child care centers found **only one in seven (14%) were rated as good quality.** *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers, (Executive Summary)* University of Colorado at Denver (1995)
 - **Thirteen percent of regulated and 50 percent of nonregulated family child care providers offer care that is inadequate.** *The Study of Children in Family Child Care and Relative Care*, Families and Work Institute (1994)
 - **"The quality of services provided by most centers was rated as barely adequate."** *The National Child Care Staffing Study (Executive Summary)*, National Center for the Early Childhood Workforce (1989)
- **"[M]any children living in poverty receive child care that, at best, does not support their optimal development and, at worst, may compromise their health and safety."** *New Findings on Children, Families, and Economic Self-Sufficiency*, National Research Council, Institute of Medicine (1995)

What Works to Improve the Quality of Child Care

- **Children who receive warm and sensitive caregiving are more likely to trust caregivers, to enter school ready and eager to learn, and to get along well with other children. . . . To ensure that child care settings nurture children, protect their health and safety, and prepare them for later school success, better qualified staff are essential.** *Starting Points: Meeting the Needs of Our Youngest Children*, Carnegie Task Force on Meeting the Needs of Young Children (1994)
- **"[S]maller group sizes, higher teacher/child ratios and higher staff wages result in quality child care. Outcomes for children are also better when they attend programs that include a curriculum geared to young children, well prepared staff and where parents are involved in programming."** *Early Childhood Care and Education: An Investment That Works*, National Conference of State Legislatures (1997)
- **Any child care setting will benefit from a health consultant. . . . to advise on potential infectious diseases, explain symptoms and treatments to families, plan health alert procedures when infectious disease occurs, and assist with public health reporting requirements.** *Caring for Infants and Toddlers in Groups, Zero to Three: National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families* (1995)
- **States with stronger licensing requirements had a greater number of good-quality centers according to recent research.** *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers*, University of Colorado at Denver (1995)
- **Voluntary conformity to higher standards through professional center accreditation or through meeting another set of quality standards also increased the likelihood of higher classroom quality.** *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers*, University of Colorado at Denver (1995)

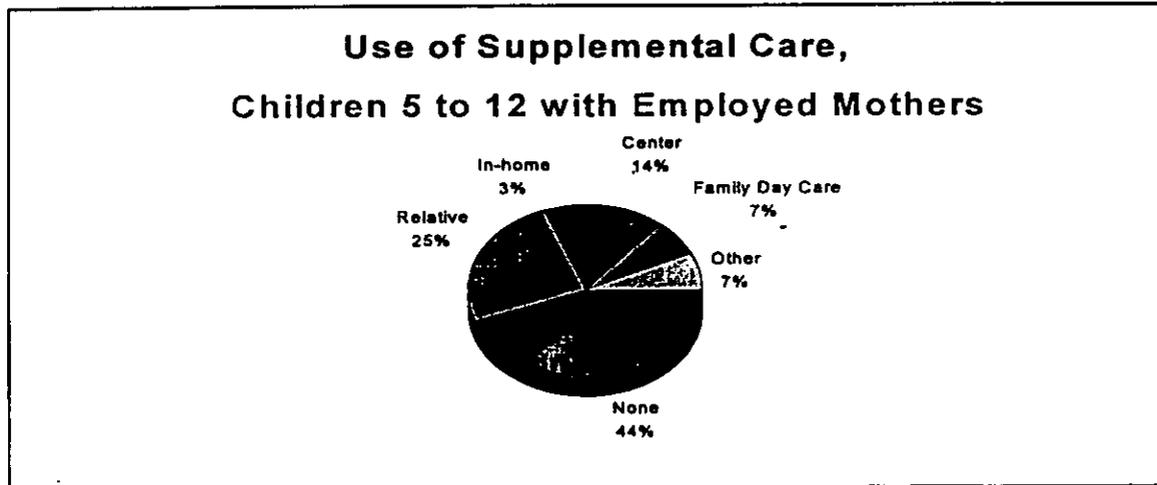
For additional information, contact the National Child Care Information Center at (800) 616-2242 or visit the Web site at <http://ericps.crc.uiuc.edu/nccic/nccichome.html>

Out-of-School Time School-Age Care

According to the Bureau of the Census, in 1997 there were 38.8 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 years living in the U.S. There are approximately 24 million school-age children with parents in the workforce or pursuing education (based on 1993 SIPP data from the Bureau of the Census).

Care Arrangements of School-Age Children

- Experts estimate that nearly 5 million school-age children spend time as latchkey kids without adult supervision during a typical week.
- Approximately 1.7 million children in kindergarten through grade 8 were enrolled in 49,500 formal before- and/or after-school programs in 1991, according to the National Study of Before and After School Programs.
- In 1993-94, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, there were 18,111 before- or after-school programs in public schools—70% of public schools did not offer extended learning programs.
- School-age children are likely to spend time in many different care arrangements. According to the National Child Care Survey (1990), 76 percent of school-age children with an employed mother spend time in at least two child care arrangements during a typical week, in addition to their time in school.
- According to the National Child Care Survey, children aged 5 to 12 with employed mothers use the following types of supplemental care: 7% are in family day care; 14% are in centers, 3% are cared for by in-home providers, 25% are cared for by relatives and 44% do not use supplemental care.



The Effects of Out-of-School Time on Children

- Children under adult supervision in a formal program during after-school hours have demonstrated improved academic achievement and better attitudes toward school than their peers in self- or sibling care. Miller and Marx, 1990 in *Supplement to the National Assessment of Chapter 1*
- Youth are at greatest risk of violence after the regular school day. Youth between the ages of 12 and 17 are most at-risk of committing violent acts or being victims between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm—a time when they are not in school. *Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*, 1997

The most frequently mentioned barrier to participation is the parents' inability to pay the tuition and fees charged by programs. Other barriers include availability, quality of activities, inadequate facilities, transportation, high staff turnover, hours of the program and lack of resources.

Components of Successful Before- and After-School Programs include: linkages between after-school and regular school programs, children's participation in age appropriate learning activities, hiring of qualified staff, low student-staff ratio, involvement of parents, program evaluation and coordination with the schools and other community organizations.

For information on what states and communities are doing to meet the need for school-age care, contact the National Institute on Out of School Time (formerly the School-Age Child Care Project), Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College at (617) 283-2547 or visit the World Wide Web site at: <http://www.wellesley.edu/WCW/CRW/SAC/>. For additional information on extended learning in after-school programs in schools, contact the U.S. Department of Education, please call (800) USA-LEARN or visit the World Wide Web site at: <http://www.ed.gov/PFIE>.

Economics of Child Care

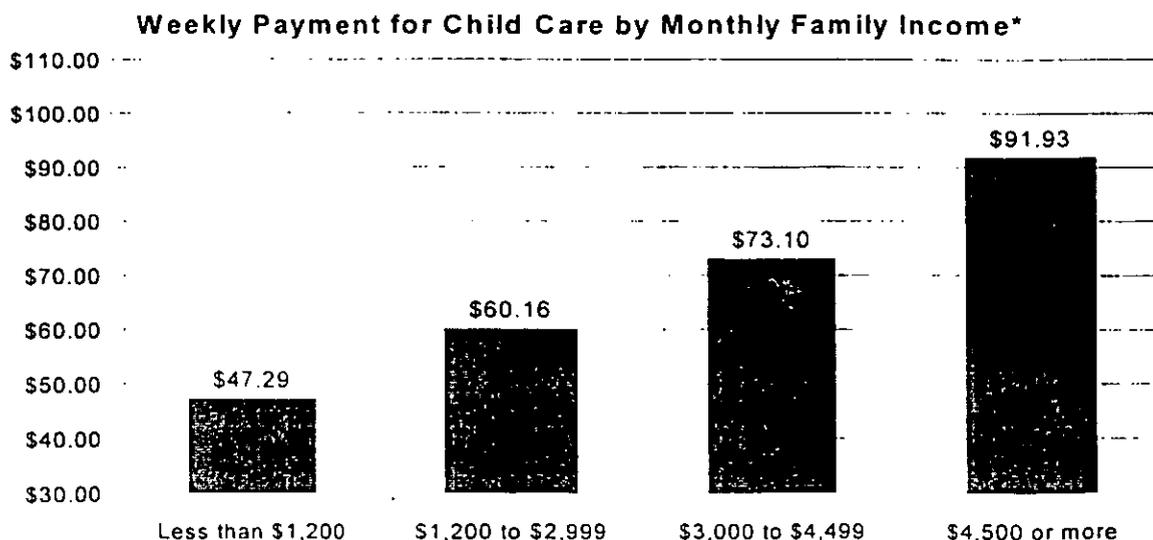
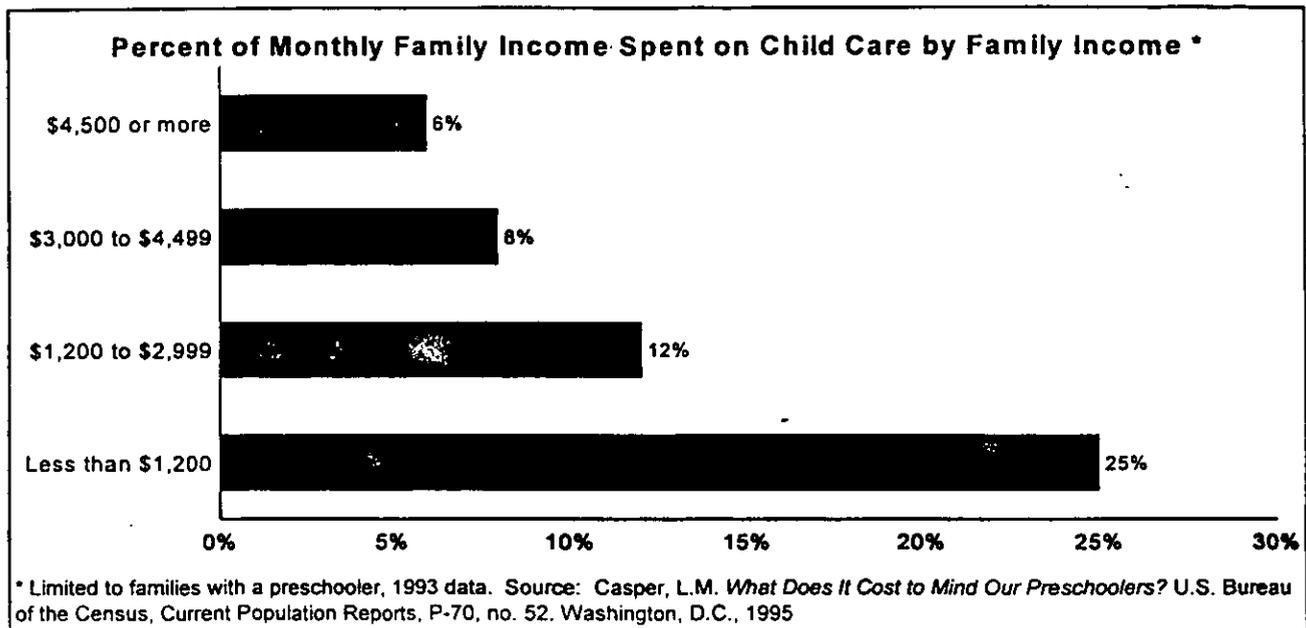
● In 1994, 62% of married mothers with a child under age six were in the workforce, compared with 30% in 1970.[†]

● The increased employment of mothers outside the home has led to a sharp increase in the use of child care over the past several decades. Eight of 10 employed mothers with children under six are likely to use some form of nonparental child care arrangement.[†]

● In 1990, 7.2 million mothers with 11.7 million children under age 15 worked full or part time during nonstandard hours.**

● In 1993, the average family with an employed mother and a child under age five spent about \$74 per week for child care for all preschoolers in the family.*

● Families with annual incomes under \$14,400 that paid for care for children under five spent 25% of their income on child care, compared with 6% for families with incomes of \$54,000 or more.*



*Limited to families paying for child care for preschoolers, 1993 data. Source: Casper, L.M. *What Does It Cost to Mind Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 52. Washington, D.C., 1995

Information in this fact sheet is excerpted from [†] Sandra L. Hofferth, "Child Care in the United States," *The Future of Children*, vol. 6, no. 2 Summer/Fall 1996, with additional information from: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education; *U.S. Bureau of Census; **Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor.

For additional information, contact the National Child Care Information Center at (800) 616-2242 or visit the Web site at <http://ericps.crc.uiuc.edu/nccic/nccichome.html>

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Who's Minding the Children?

Quality of Day Care Is Often a Casualty of the Booming Economy

By Barbara Vobejda

Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, October 22, 1997; Page A01

The Washington Post

Two day-care centers in Columbus, Ohio, have closed recently because their operators couldn't find enough workers. In California, where the public schools are hiring teachers to reduce class sizes, day-care administrators say they are unable to find replacements for the staff they are losing to the schools. In Battle Creek, Mich., centers say they can't compete with factory jobs making cereal for Kellogg's, which pays two or three times child-care salaries.

This is what specialists in the field call the crisis of day care: hiring and retaining the kind of high-quality people it takes to provide good care. And with numerous national studies finding that most day care is of poor quality, child development experts warn that the emotional and intellectual development of a generation of children is being jeopardized.

Thursday, President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will host a White House conference on child care, the single most visible effort yet to focus attention on the subject.

The conference agenda, acknowledging the problems of quality, availability and financing, is aimed at exploring solutions, primarily public-private sector partnerships to funnel new funds into the system. But even as advocates are encouraged by the high-profile platform, they are also skeptical that the federal government, states or the private sector are on the verge of making the kind of financial infusion it would take to turn around an industry whose basic economics work against quality.

The conference comes at a particularly challenging time, industry experts say, because the nation's healthy economy and low unemployment rate have made staffing shortages and high turnover in child care even worse.

The result, said Ed Hassenger, executive director of the Altrusa Day Nursery in Battle Creek, is an applicant pool with very poor qualifications, some who struggle to read and write.

"You have a population . . . unable to work with children," he said, and so centers work on their skills. "Then you start over again. So you have a vicious circle."

Even when workers were in greater supply, the industry had trouble paying the kind of premium wages it would require to keep highly trained staff.

Of the 3 million day-care workers in this country, half are likely to quit their jobs this year, according to Marcy Whitebook, co-director of the National Center for the Early Childhood Work Force and a leading expert on the industry's economics.

They will leave to earn more money as grocery store clerks or washing United Postal Service trucks or, if they have a college education, teaching in the public schools. It is no wonder, since a third are paid only the minimum wage.

Child-care providers say they would pay more if they could, but that would mean charging parents more, which is difficult because day care already accounts for a huge portion of family expenses.

"There simply isn't enough purchasing power in the hands of parents to insure children get good quality care," said Gail Richardson, who heads the Child Care Action Campaign, a national advocacy group.

But fixing the problem is difficult, because when it comes to day care, the standard rules of the marketplace don't apply.

First, said Suzanne Helburn, a University of Colorado economist who has studied child-care quality, "there's not enough money in the system."

Helburn and others said child care should be viewed not as a typical market, but like public education or health care, where the cost of providing the service far outweighs the capacity of consumers to pay. Yet unlike child care, public schools and health care are heavily subsidized or underwritten entirely by government or employers.

The subsidy to child care is much more limited, with 70 percent of the total price tag paid from the pockets of parents. On average, families with preschool-age children pay \$74 a week for child care, making it the third largest expense, after housing and food, for many working parents.

While it strains a family budget, that \$3,700 a year provides less than half what experts estimate quality care

would cost -- as much as \$8,500 per child per year.

At the Shirlington Children's Center, an Arlington day-care center, director Anna Wodzynska is familiar with the problem. Two years ago, four of her seven workers left, and within a short time, all of the replacements quit.

"If you can keep a teacher for a year, that's great," she said.

But if she wanted to raise salaries from the \$8 she now pays teachers to the \$12 she thinks would lower turnover, it would increase the price of care from \$130 a week to \$200. But she said that is impossible. "Here, in Shirlington, no one could afford that."

Even the cost of day care is more than many parents can afford, especially low-income, single mothers.

Carrie Trombetta, a 20-year-old mother with two young children, earns \$5.15 working at Barnhill's Country Buffet in Pensacola, Fla. She gets up each morning and starts calling around to friends and family, asking who might care for her boys while she goes to work.

"I look all day for a babysitter until I go to work," she said. "I offer to pay them in food stamps because I can't afford to give them money."

When she applied for a government child-care subsidy, she was told there were 600 people on the waiting list in front of her.

Over the past decade, the federal government has increased what it spends to help low-income parents pay for child care from \$500 million to nearly \$3 billion. But only one in 10 children who are eligible for those funds is receiving them, leaving many states with thousands of families on their waiting lists.

Experts point to numerous studies underscoring their arguments that financing affects quality: A 1995 study by researchers at four universities rated just one in seven day-care centers as good quality and linked the problem to wages, training and experience.

A year earlier, the Families and Work Institute, a New York-based research organization, found comparably poor levels of quality in home day care, when children are taken to another person's home rather than a center.

And in April, a similar White House conference focused on brain development from birth to age 3, emphasizing that in order to learn and develop properly, young children need consistent and positive relationships with adults.

Gloria Hicks, who runs the Teddy Bear Day Care in Fairfax, has seen firsthand the importance of that consistency.

"It's very hard for the younger ones, the infants and toddlers, to warm up to strangers," she said. "They're more fussy, crying" when new teachers take over. Hicks said she steps in and helps the children. Still, she said, "They have to develop a bond with a person, then all of a sudden, they have to develop a bond with a new person."

Even as advocates call for public and private investments to subsidize the system, they caution that simply adding dollars is not the answer.

Whitebook, the work force expert, argued that, even with the increased federal investment in recent years, little has been done to improve day-care wages or reduce turnover.

"The challenge is not just more money, but more money with an eye toward improving the care."

Indeed, even in the segment of the child-care system where there is plenty of money -- high-income parents willing to pay hundreds of dollars weekly -- there are still problems.

"The more affluent families are not very good consumers," said Helburn. "They don't understand what good quality is."

In part, parents lack the expertise to be good consumers but they also lack the emotional distance it sometimes takes to make a rational choice.

"Parents, when they're looking for child care, find it a very painful process," said Ellen Galinsky, co-president of the Work and Families Institute. The process of choosing day care, she said, "symbolizes separation. They don't look with dispassion" as they do in many other instances of comparison shopping.

DAY CARE IN AMERICA

Experts argue that the quality of child care is harmed by high turnover among providers. One in two workers is expected to quit this year, in part because wages are limited by how much parents can afford to pay.

Care providers for preschoolers with employed mothers, 1993

Child-care centers: 30%

Relatives: 25

Parents: 22

Home day care: 17

Nannies: 5

Other: 1

Budget for a typical child-care center, per child per month

COSTS

Labor: \$285

Other: \$44

Rent: \$55

Food: \$19

REVENUE

Parent fees: \$302

Other: \$55

Public fees: \$63

The poorest Americans spend the greatest share of their income on child care.

Annual Weekly Share of income

income expense

Under \$14,400 \$47.29 25%

\$14,400-35,999 \$60.16 12%

\$36,000-53,999 \$73.10 8%

\$54,000 and over \$91.93 6%

Children under 6 who have both parents or only parent in work force: 12 million

Licensed child-care centers: 93,221

Average salary for providers in child-care centers: \$6.89 an hour

Amount U.S. employers lose due to child-care-related absences: \$3 billion

Percentage of employees eligible for employer-assisted child-care benefits: 4 percent

SOURCES: Packard Foundation, Child Care Action Campaign

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U.S. News



The Clintons' day-care model: the Pentagon

The military way emphasizes standards and, not surprisingly, more spending

BY BRUCE B. AUSTER

Five years ago, after receiving an anonymous tip, Linda Smith and her team of Pentagon specialists sped south to Quantico, Va., to inspect, unannounced, the Marine Corps's child-care center there. The facility, a wooden World War II-era structure that housed 85 kids under age 5, was so dilapidated that Smith's heel broke through the floor. One day later, she had shut it down.

Quantico's center has long since reopened in a new facility, with strict health and safety standards, and mandatory training and better wages for its staff. Many other military day-care centers were also bad a few years ago and are good today--a pattern that will lead first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to praise the military model at this week's White House conference on child care. But while the military--which provides care for more than 200,000 children--provides many lessons for improving day care in the civilian sector, some can be copied only at great expense.

The armed services were stung by a General Accounting Office report in 1982 that concluded that many military facilities--including centers run in condemned buildings and one set up in a former stable--were "neither safe nor suitable places" for children. The military responded by demanding high standards of all its 800 centers and 9,800 in-home care providers. In theory, troops, who transfer to new posts every two or three years, should now find quality care wherever they are based. In contrast, child-care programs in the civilian world vary in quality from the very good to the very bad.

Facing turnover rates of 300 percent, the military placed an unusual emphasis on training and retaining its caregivers. Although entry-level pay for military day-care jobs isn't much better than the \$7 an hour most civilian providers earn, it can rise to \$9 an hour for teachers who get additional training. By contrast, in the civilian sector 32 states don't even require training. At Fort Meade in Maryland, turnover among the child-care center staff is less than 20 percent, compared with 36 percent in the civilian sector nationally. The center received a coveted national accreditation.

Surprise inspections. In the military, home-based caregivers, who serve one third of military kids, receive the same training as those at the large centers and are subject to the same health and safety standards. In the civilian sector, as many as 1.1 million at-home providers are unlicensed. Sheila Gregg, who has been caring for kids for 10 years in her Fort Meade duplex, gets four surprise inspections a year, in addition to monthly visits from an outreach worker. Although the standards mirror those in the civilian world, they are rigorously enforced.

But these improvements do not come cheap. The Pentagon spends \$273 million a year on child care; combined with parents' investment, it costs about \$6,800 a year for each child-care slot. That's well above the \$3,700 national average for day care and roughly comparable to the \$6,300 to \$8,500 average for high-quality care. Even that investment fails to provide for 130,000 military children, whose parents must make other arrangements. And while the White House will showcase model child-care programs this week, it will not propose adding much to the \$3 billion the federal government now spends, mostly targeted to low-income families. Business and civic leaders, who are already spending tens of millions of dollars on child care, will be called on to do more. But even the Pentagon, with its deep pockets, invested in child care only reluctantly, reasoning that its soldiers and sailors would fight better if they knew their kids were well cared for. "It was difficult for [the Pentagon] to fund child care," says Carolyn Becraft, the official responsible for day care. "But it's a readiness issue for us. It's a business decision." Part of the Clintons' goal is to persuade companies, parents, and communities that significant financial investments are in their interests, too.

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Clintons to tackle child-care issues

WASHINGTON - As if on cue to illustrate the problem Hillary Rodham Clinton was describing, secretary and single mom Paula Broglio stood up and presented herself to the first lady as a living example of a working woman who can't make it on her own.

On a \$25,000 salary and with no child support from her ex-husband, Broglio lives with her 4-year-old son in the guest bedroom of her parents' house so she can afford \$200-a-month subsidized child care at a Catholic school while she's at work.

"If I did not have that, and I didn't have my parents, I would probably have to quit my job and go on welfare, because who would watch my child during the day and how could I afford to live in an apartment?" Broglio asked earlier this month at the University of Maryland, where the first lady was speaking about her latest effort to influence public policy.

"That is the problem," Clinton answered. "I could not more vividly describe it."

But Clinton couldn't say how the White House Conference on Child Care, which she and President Clinton will host Thursday, might help the 38-year-old Adelphi, Md., secretary and her little boy, Vincent.

"Your child will be in school before we probably get much of the changes that I would like to see happen," she said.

White House aides are being deliberately vague about what the Clintons have in mind to address the problems of affordability, availability and safety in the nation's child-care industry.

During the 1993-94 health-care debates, they learned that large-scale proposals can bring protest from those who see big government taking over a responsibility that should be left to families and private businesses.

"If you're having a White House conference, I suspect you think there's a government solution," says Gary Bauer of the conservative Family Research Council.

In an interview with USA TODAY on Tuesday, Hillary Clinton wouldn't say what the administration will propose.

"What I'm interested in is putting the spotlight on this issue and using the White House to . . . ignite a national conversation," she said.

The goal, she said, is to "call national attention to an issue that political leaders and policymakers should focus on but which has often been ignored."

She wouldn't talk specifics, and her aides said she is not necessarily backing ideas she has mentioned recently: creating a national registry of child-care workers who have been convicted of crimes, for example, or offering protection for caretakers who fear being sued over minor accidents.

In her book *It Takes a Village*, Clinton said child care "is an issue that brings out all of our conflicted feelings about what parenthood should be and about who should care for children when parents are working or otherwise unable to."

Children's issues have been a passion for Clinton since the early 1970s, when she worked as a lawyer at the Children's Defense Fund, a liberal advocacy group. Now she is wading back in to help tackle what the president calls "the next great frontier" in his effort to help working families.

In a recent speech at a Newark church, he ticked off a list of large and small initiatives he already has promoted: a new TV rating system to alert parents about violent or sexual content, a tobacco settlement that aims to stop smoking among children, a \$500-per-child tax credit for working families and a balanced federal budget that increases funding for health care for low-income children.

"But we still have to make sure that our parents have access to quality, affordable child care," he said. "That's the great, big hurdle left."

Richard Stolley, president of the Child Care Action Campaign, hopes Thursday's conference can help convince businesses that helping employees find child care helps productivity. "Business needs to be convinced there is a bottom-line benefit," he says.

But the nation's child-care system is in such bad shape, he says, that "we're deluding ourselves if we think this is going to make an enormous difference."

By Mimi Hall, USA TODAY

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Family - child care conference
Legislative outreach

Child Care Planning Meetings

House Democratic Leadership, 9/24/97:

1. Craig Hanna-- Gephardt
2. Andie King-- Gephardt
3. Deb Colton-- Ways and Means
4. Broderick Johnson-- Ed and Work
5. Gail Weiss-- Ed and Work
6. Sheryl Smith-- Appropriations
7. Rob Cogorno-- Gephardt

House Republican Leadership, 10/6/97

1. Ren Haskins-- Bill Archer
2. Cassie Bavin-- Bill Archer
3. Richard Stombres-- Bill Goodling
4. Denzel McGuire-- Bill Goodling
5. Bob Knisely-- Robert Livingston

House New Democrats, 9/25/97:

1. Geri O'Sullivan-- McCarthy
2. Phil Singer-- Rothman
3. Jennifer Martella-- LaFalce
4. Abby Hochberg-- Lampson
5. Shannon Ashpole-- A. Smith
6. Stephen Stefanski-- John
7. Amy Bressler-- Pascrell
8. Stacy Stordahl-- Kind
9. Beth Beausang-- Allen
10. Anstice Brand-- Moran
11. Gina Mahony-- Roemer
12. Mark Harkins-- Price
13. Lisa Quigley-- Dooley

House Congressional Hispanic Caucus, 9/26/97:

1. Aylin Kuyumeu-- Sanchez
2. Selena Walsh-- Pastor
3. Henry Contreras-- Roybal-Allard
4. Joshua Tenorio-- Underwood
5. Marilyn Ramos-- Velazquez
6. Ricardo Martinez-Pumerejo-- Romero-Barcelo

7. Jeff Mendelsohn-- Rodriguez
8. Pedro A. Pla-Davila-- Becerra
House Women's Caucus, 9/29/97:

1. Erin Prangle-- Norton
2. Ken Kero-- Tauscher
3. Pearle Jones-- Barton
4. Kraabel, Patsy-- Carson
5. Geri O'Sullivan-- McCarthy
6. Maura Dalton-- Eshoo
7. Cindy Pellegrini-- Slaughter
8. Terri McCullough-- Pelosi
9. Aimee Feinberg-- Woolsey
10. Becky Solay-- DeLauro
11. Marilyn Ramos-- Velazquez
12. Robin Swanson-- McCarthy
13. Kathryn Pearson--Morella
14. Sandy Zimmer-- Morella
15. Liz Powell-- Millender-McDonald
16. Joan Clarle-- Johnson

House Congressional Black Caucus, 10/6/97:

1. Donna Crews-- Waters
2. Abdullah Payton-- Scott
3. Monique Clendinen-- Christian-Green
4. Jennifer Simon-- Dellums
5. Elizabeth Douglas-- Lewis
6. Maya Rockeymoore-- Watt
7. Joseph Lee-- Waters

Senate Democratic Leadership, 9/29/97:

1. Julie Eckert-- Kerrey
2. Stephanie Robinson-- Kennedy
3. Jeanne Ireland-- Dodd
4. Janine Jones-- Moseley-Braun
5. Joanna Slaney-- Moseley-Braun
6. Paul Seltman-- Budget
7. Heidi Bonne-- DPC
8. Opal Winebrenner-- Bryan
9. Lisa Linnell-- Conrad
10. Deborah Walter-- Bingaman
11. Kate O'Malley-- Boxer
12. Jim Jepsen-- Durbin

13. Bev Schroeder-- Harkin
 14. Elyse Wasch-- Reed
 15. Greg Williamson-- Murray
 16. Rick Remish-- Rockefeller
 17. David Kass-- Kerry
 18. Donna Denison-- Landrieu
 19. Paul Thornell-- Daschle
 20. Elizabeth Goldon-- Breaux
- Senate Republican Leadership, 10/3/97

1. John Cerisano-- Gramm
2. Hope Hegstrom-- Grassley
3. Dennis Smith-- Roth
4. Pamela Maimer-- DeWine
5. Angie Stewart-- Warner
6. Scott Olson-- Baucus
7. Kimberly Barnes-O'Conner-- Jeffords
8. Stacey Hughes-- Nickles
9. Erin Hickman-- Nickles
10. Maggie Smolen-- Murkowski
11. Gary Blank-- Murkowski
12. Stephanie Robinson-- Kennedy

Ch Care Conf

TO: Melanne Verveer
Rahm Emanuel
Ann Lewis
Bruce Reed
Elena Kagan
FROM: Jennifer Klein *JK*
Nicole Rabner
DATE: 10/7/97
RE: Child Care Conference Agenda

Attached please find a draft agenda for the White House Conference on Child Care for your review. We plan to release this to the press tomorrow. Please call Jen at 6-2599 with any comments or concerns.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

Over the past decade, the number of American families with working parents has expanded dramatically.... Each of us -- from businesses to religious leaders to policy-makers and elected officials -- has a responsibility and an important stake in making sure that children of all ages have the best possible care available to them. From infancy to adolescence, in child care settings and after-school programs, children can learn and thrive with the right care, attention and education.

--President Clinton, July 23, 1997

On October 23, 1997, the President and the First Lady will host the *White House Conference on Child Care* in the East Room of the White House. The conference will examine the state of child care in this country and explore how Americans can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality care.

There will be two panel discussions. The morning panel will address: (1) why child care is important to the nation's economy, our children's development, and the health of American communities; and (2) how to ensure that the children who need it are in healthy, safe, quality child care. The afternoon panel will provide an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and highlight promising efforts across the country.

I. OPENING SESSION

II. PANEL DISCUSSION: WHY DOES GOOD CHILD CARE MATTER AND HOW DO WE KNOW IT WHEN WE SEE IT?

Part 1: Why is Child Care Important?

This panel will include presentations by experts addressing the relationship between child care and the economy and workforce; child care and children's healthy development, particularly in the earliest years of life; and child care and the health of our communities, with a focus on the need for adequate care for children of school age.

Part 2: What Is "Good" Child Care?

This panel will include presentations by a state legislator, a child care provider, and a parent about how to ensure that the children who need it are in healthy, safe, quality child care.

III. WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON AND WORKING SESSIONS AT FEDERAL AGENCIES

Several Cabinet Secretaries will host working sessions at their agencies during the White House luncheon.

} Few -
This init
really about
how to ensure
that kids are
in quality
child care -
it's about
what
quality
child care
is. You -
planning
support more
an emphasis
on program
to ensure
} availability
availability
etc.

IV. PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW DO WE MOBILIZE ~~THE PIVOTAL SECTORS~~ TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE, QUALITY CHILD CARE?

community /

2 This pivotal sectors of what??

Part 1: What is Going On In Child Care Across the Country?

Secretary Shalala will give an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of child care across the country.

Part 2: What Promising Models Can We Learn From?

This panel will include presentations by state and local officials, ~~about efforts in their state~~, military personnel, ~~on their child care system~~, a religious leader, and representatives from business, labor, and the health care community ~~on pursuing efforts to~~ efforts to promote affordable, quality child care.

V. SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION

The conference will conclude with a reception on the White House South Lawn. ~~In addition to closing remarks by White House principals, Cabinet Secretaries who have held working sessions at their agencies will report on those meetings.~~

At the reception?

Sounds strange - are you sure?

will make closing

and White House principals will make closing remarks.

**White House Conference on Child Care
Options for Release
DRAFT - September 25, 1997**

<u>Product</u>	<u>Due date</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1. CEA White Paper		Amy Finkelstein
2. Rob Reiner/Rosie O'Donnell Child Care Brochure for Parents		Nicole Rabner
3. Parents Magazine Survey Release		
4. HHS Child Care Bureau Grant Release	Oct. 2	Joan Lombardi 202-401-6947
5. HHS 1 page Fact Sheet ^{5/} on Child Care	Oct. 2	Joan Lombardi 202-401-6947
6. White House Accomplishments A) Children Issues B) Child Care		Robin Bachman
7. American Public Welfare Association Survey of the States on quality improvement efforts		John Scianna 202-682-0100 ext 237

**White House Conference on Child Care
DRAFT - Panelist Candidates - DRAFT
September 25, 1997 (5:57pm)**

We are proposing that the President and the First Lady anchor both panels. The Vice President and Mrs. Gore will participate in Panel Two.

Opening Session

- Welcoming Remarks - First Lady
- Video
- Parent
- President

There will be a 5 minute video presentation. The goal of this video is to hear from parents and child care providers, while introducing audiences to the child care issues affecting our country.

Panel One: What do we know about Child Care today?

This panel addresses a range of issues, including the effects of care on children, the effects of quality care on child development and school-readiness, and the various components of quality care in specific age-groups.

Candidates

Background

Part 1: Why Child Care is Important

1. What is the relationship between child care and the economy? - Economist

Providing a historical perspective, while addressing the future of child care, accessibility, affordability and the impact of home school/care on the child care environment.

2. What is the relationship between child development and how children learn and grow? - Expert

3. What is the relationship between school-age and safety and education? - Expert

Part 2: Three perspectives on - What is good Child Care

1. Expert

2. Parent

Parents presenting the impact of child care on home, family and business.
Sources for parents

3. Child care provider

State person

Panel Two

How do we strengthen child care in the U.S. - Investing in child care and mobilizing business and communities to promote quality child care.

This panel would address the status of child care from both state-by-state and national perspective, and examine model efforts nation-wide.

Pivotal section to improve child care.

Part 1: What's going on in child care across the country?

State child care - 1 page

Part 2: Models and Promising Practices

- 1. State Efforts - *State/local partnership (Govt)*
- 3. Military models
- 4. Business leadership
- 5. School-age programs
- 6. Role of Health Care Leadership *(Standards)*

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Parent
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3. What is the relationship between school-age and safety and education? - Expert

Part 2: Three perspectives on - What is good Child Care

~~1. Expert~~ 1. state Legislator

2. Parent

Parents presenting the impact of child care on home, family and business.

Sources for parents

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Part 1: What's going on in child care across the country?

Scott Stalaly

Part 2: Models and Promising Practices

1. State Efforts - *Local Partnership*

3. Military models

4. Business leadership

5. School-age programs

6. Role of Health Care Leadership ? *Health + Safety Standards*

Nicole R. Rabner

09/25/97 09:09:15 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jennifer L. Klein/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: conference format

**WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE
October 23, 1997**

The President and the First Lady will host the White House Conference on Child Care at the White House on October 23, 1997, to examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and explore how our nation can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality child care.

Two panel discussions will be held in the East Room of the White House. The morning panel discussion will address why child care is important to our nation, examining this question from both economic and child development perspectives. The afternoon panel will look at the state of child care in America and examine promising models nation-wide.

I. OPENING SESSION

The First Lady welcomes and makes remarks

Short video is presented (5 minues) to provide child/provider perspectives

TBD Parent introduces the President

The President makes remarks

II. PANEL DISCUSSION #1

The President and First Lady facilitate

1. Why is Child Care Important?

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and the economy/workforce

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and building strong communities

Expert addresses the relationship between child care and child development, and explains what makes child care good

2. What Makes Child Care Good?

Legislator speaks

Child Care Provider speaks

Parent speaks

**II. WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON/
WORKING SESSIONS AT TBD FEDERAL AGENCIES**

III. PANEL DISCUSSION #2

The Vice President (t), Mrs. Gore (t), and the First Lady will introduce/facilitate this session.

1. What is Going On In Child Care Across the Country?

Secretary Shalala gives an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of child care in our country.

2. What Promising Models Can We Learn From?

Governor and a county official speak to promising model

Military Officer speaks about the Military Child Care System

Business Leader Speaks

School-Age Program Leader Speaks

Health Care Leader Speaks

IV. SOUTH LAWN RECEPTION

TBD Cabinet Secretaries report on working sessions held at Federal Agencies

TBD Principals speak and close.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 23, 1997

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today, the First Lady and I are pleased to announce that on October 23, 1997, we will host the *White House Conference on Child Care*. The conference, which will take place at the White House, will examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and explore how our nation can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality child care.

Over the past decade, the number of American families with working parents has expanded dramatically. Making high quality child care more affordable and accessible is critical to the strength of our families and to healthy child development and learning. It is also good for the economy and central to a productive American workforce.

This nation can and should do better. Each of us --from businesses to religious leaders to policy-makers and elected officials --has a responsibility and an important stake in making sure that children of all ages have the best possible care available to them. From infancy through adolescence, in child care settings and after-school programs, children can learn and thrive with the right care, attention, and education.

I hope that this conference will be the beginning of a national dialogue about how best to care for all of America's children and will make a valuable contribution to our effort to improve child care in this country.

**PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY ANNOUNCE
WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE**

July 23, 1997

Today, President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announced that on October 23, 1997, they will host the first-ever White House Conference on Child Care. The White House Conference on Child Care will examine the strengths and weaknesses of child care in America and explore how our nation can better respond to the needs of working families for affordable, high quality child care. Over the past decade, the number of American families with working parents has expanded dramatically.

The conference builds on the President and First Lady's long-standing commitment to increasing access to child care and ensuring child care quality. Specific Clinton Administration actions to expand and improve child care include:

INCREASING THE INVESTMENT IN CHILD CARE

Expanding Funding for Child Care: Since 1993, federal funding for child care has increased by approximately 68% and provides child care services for over one million children. Every budget that the President has submitted to Congress has included increases in child care funding, and the President's FY 1998 budget request for child care services is \$3.1 billion. As a result of the President's efforts, the welfare law increased child care funding by nearly \$4 billion over 6 years, providing child care assistance to low-income working families and parents moving from welfare for work.

Streamlining Child Care Operations and Services: In 1995, the Child Care Bureau at HHS was established to streamline child care operations -- improving the quality and efficiency of service and technical assistance delivery.

ENSURING HEALTH AND SAFETY IN CHILD CARE

Issuing New Child Care Regulations: Today, President Clinton proposed new child care regulations that will help more children in child care receive the immunizations they need on time. The new rule requires that all children receiving federal child care assistance be immunized according to state public health agency standards. This regulation will particularly affect those children in child care arrangements that are legal but exempt from state licensing requirements.

Launching the Healthy Child Care America Campaign: In May 1995, HHS launched the Healthy Child Care America Campaign to promote partnerships between child care and health agencies to ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments and receive the health services they need. Forty-six states have now launched Healthy Child Care America campaigns at the state and/or community levels.

Providing Technical Assistance and Disseminating Information: Through the Child Care Technical Assistance Project, HHS provides important technical assistance to improve and expand the child care delivery systems of states, tribes and territories for low-income families. HHS launched the National Child Care Information Center to disseminate child care information, publications and resources to help providers start up child care centers, parents locate child care in their communities, and researchers and policy makers attain access to policy information.

FOCUSING ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Convening a Conference on Early Childhood Development: In April 1997, the President and First Lady convened the White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning to examine recent scientific findings on brain development of children, including the important finding that child care quality does have an impact on childhood development and learning.

Creating the Early Head Start Program: The Early Head Start program was created through the reauthorization of the Head Start program in 1994. The program provides early, continuous and comprehensive child development and family support services for low-income families with children ages zero to three, preparing them for a lifetime of learning and development. Currently there are 143 Early Head Start programs in 44 states, serving over 27,000 children and families. In April 1997, the President announced approximately \$26 million in new Early Head Start grants. These grants, combined with the funding increases included in the President's FY 98 budget request, will expand the Early Head Start program to serve a record number of children.

Linking Head Start and Child Care: In March 1997, HHS announced that Head Start expansion funds will be used for the first time to build partnerships with child care providers to deliver full-day and full-year Head Start services. Through these new expansion grants, Head Start and child care agencies will combine staff and funds to provide high quality services. Children will stay in one place all day, rather than attending Head Start for half a day and then moving to child care for the remainder of the day. In addition, the expansion funds will provide for increased Head Start slots for children. By the end of FY 1997, some 800,000 children are expected to be enrolled in Head Start, an increase of 50,000 from the beginning of the fiscal year.

*Family - child care
conference*

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WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE**

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