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DOCUMENT NO. & TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. paper 2. letter	"The AFDC Program...", 1p (partial) Kristina Leahy to POTUS re: welfare reform. 3p (partial)	nd 4/7/94	P6/B6 P6/B6

RESTRICTIONS

- P1** National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P2** Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P3** Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P4** Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P5** Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P6** Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].

- B1** National security classified information [(b) (1) of the FOIA].
- B2** Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- B3** Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- B4** Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
- B6** Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- B7** Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- B8** Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(9) of the FOIA].
- B9** Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

PRM Personal records misfile defined in accordance with 44 USC 2201 (3).

National Center For Family Literacy

Waterfront Plaza, Suite 200
325 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202-4251
(502) 584-1133
Fax (502) 584-0172



February 8, 1995

Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Old Executive Office Building, Room 216
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

The National Center for Family Literacy has prepared the enclosed briefing paper on family literacy and welfare reform. NCFL has summarized the recommendations to be more clear and succinct. They read as follows:

1. The welfare system should be reorganized to focus on a family needs assessment, rather than entitlement criteria or time limits.
2. Family literacy should be a requirement for participants who have not completed high school and have a pre-school child.
3. Congress should fund model demonstration programs, staff development, and research and evaluation to identify quality programs and create a vehicle to abolish ineffective programs.
4. Programs funded under the auspices of welfare reform should be directed toward family units, as opposed to individuals within the family.
5. All new and existing legislation should be screened for its ability to create self-sufficiency, as opposed to dependency on government programs.

If I can be of any assistance, please call me at 502/584-1133.

Sincerely,

Linda Likins
Director of Policy Development

LL/bjg

Enclosure

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Briefing Paper:

**WELFARE REFORM
AND
FAMILY LITERACY**



Prepared by:
The National Center for Family Literacy
Waterfront Plaza, Suite 200
325 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202-4251
502/584-1133
February 12, 1995

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August 26, 1994

Ms. Diane Lynn Fancoe
Akron, Ohio

Dear Diane:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your paper, "Welfare Reform: Early Intervention at the Local Level." I appreciate knowing your thoughts on this crucial issue, and I've shared your views with my staff.

My welfare reform plan is based on two simple principles: work and responsibility. Unfortunately, our current welfare system undermines these and other basic values, failing the very people it is supposed to help.

Welfare should be a transitional program, enabling people to go to work and support their families. My welfare reform plan is designed to provide job training, child care, and support for those in need. But after two years, anyone who can work must do so -- in the private sector if possible, in the public service if necessary.

The second value underlying my plan is responsibility -- because governments don't raise children, people do. My plan includes the toughest child support enforcement measures in our nation's history. It empowers people to take new responsibility for themselves and their families through time limits on assistance and structured support services.

We must make it clear to people that they should not have children until they are ready to take care of them. I proposed launching a national campaign calling on teenagers to delay having children until they have completed their education and can support themselves. The plan also requires teen parents who receive welfare benefits to stay in school, to live with their families if possible, and to move toward work.

This plan rewards work, encourages responsibility, and strengthens our families for the generations to come. And it is paid for entirely by reductions in federal expenditures on other programs. It includes no new or additional taxes.

As I work to build a brighter future of opportunity for all of our people, I hope I can count on your support.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON

BC/DNP/MM/lynn (Corres. #1760458)
(8.pancoe.dl)

WHcc: Rep. Thomas C. Sawyer
cc: Leg. Affairs
cc: Carol Rascò w/inc.

SENT TO:
Ms. Diane Lynn Pancoe
c/o The Honorable Thomas C. Sawyer
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
Suite 105
411 Wolf Ledges Parkway
Akron, Ohio 44311

Diane Pancoe
Issues and Trends in Education
June 6, 1994

"Trends no one thought of but me"
Welfare Reform: Early Intervention at the Local Level

I was really glad to to see this was to be the title of our last paper this semester. I have had something on my mind for quite some time now that I would like to submit to President Clinton's Welfare Reform Task Force, from the viewpoint of someone who has experienced firsthand the trials and tribulations of trying to overcome poverty. Before I begin though, I feel you will need to read the attached research paper I completed a few years ago to give you some background knowledge of where I am coming from and why my great interest in this issue that I feel directly effects our education system. Now, on to solutions...

According to Webster's Dictionary (1988), the word welfare means, "well-being; prosperity." I feel that our welfare system as it is known today can hardly be said to foster and nurture an individual's well-being, let alone encourage prosperity. I found just the opposite to be true; the harder I worked to overcome difficult life situations and improve my self-esteem, the more the system tried to discourage me, cut benefits, and keep me down. I was fortunate to have an aunt who believed in me more than I believed in myself at that time. It was because of her, my deep faith, and the love of friends I was able to survive and come out stronger in spite of it all. It was also these same

experiences that opened my eyes to the injustice our government was doing to a population in need of much more than financial assistance.

My first experience with government assistance was the application - a thirty-four page form asking questions, I feel, had nothing to do with helping me set a plan for my future and quite honestly, were none of their business! But these were the rules of the "game" and if I wanted a better life, I needed to learn how to "play." Describing my horrendous experiences the next seven years would take too much space, but there are a few that triggered my mind into coming up with a new welfare plan.

In addition to the thirty-four page application, the conditions and atmosphere of the building I first walked into ten years ago (they have now improved) nearly made me nauseous. The floors, walls, and restrooms were filthy; not fit for animals, let alone humans. The small amount of self-esteem I thought I had left at that point...vanished. The air was smoke-filled and stagnant. There were no educational reading materials available for children or adults. Parents were yelling at and spanking their toddlers - there was not a play area for young children. One could not help but sense the frustration and tension of the individuals waiting for their names to be called.

Another incident I observed was a man attempting to fill out that "necessary" form. I watched his face grimace and his legs cross back and forth until he finally went to a man a few seats

down from him. I heard him say, "Hey man, can you help me with this? I only went to eighth grade...I can't read." At that point in time my heart just broke. I thought to myself, "Where is the intervention?! Why aren't we as a society, with all our great knowledge, helping this man?" It was then I began to devise my own plan for welfare reform, one I hope to someday present to President Clinton.

The best thing I believe we can do for those in need of government assistance is to help people to help themselves. I become very defensive when I hear judgments being made against people on welfare and even more defensive when someone in my past has said to me, "But you're different." My response was always that I was not different, I was just fortunate - fortunate to have known another way of life before my parents died eighteen years ago; fortunate to have been brought up surrounded by books and with a strong emphasis on the importance of higher education.

What many people do not realize is that for a number of families receiving welfare, that is the only way of life they have ever known. The intent of the welfare system was not for generation after generation to receive assistance for life. I am not sure exactly where it went wrong, but it is definitely time for an overhaul.

The first step on the road to improvement is to do away with the thirty-four page form. Not only is it a waste of paper and time consuming to fill out, but I believe it lowers feelings

of self-worth just by the mistrusting nature of the questions. The form also focuses on one's past versus a plan for one's future. My idea is that when a person applies for welfare, the first place they should be sent is to a local university's Career Planning and Placement Center. To me, this type of assessment will be more beneficial to an individual's future and self-esteem than any thirty-four page form asking whether or not one has sold and received cash for anything of value in the past year. It also allows for an individual to experience the environment of a college campus, possibly for the first time.

It would be at this time, too, where the process of intervention should begin. Just as teachers write IEP's (Individual Education Plan) for special needs students, I feel case workers should be trained in how to write and development either an IEP or "FEP" - Family Education Plan for clients needing assistance. It is only with this type of guidance will individuals begin to learn how to help themselves. If an individual is unable to read, the first step for them would be enrollment in Project Learn. We have a wealth of community resources that I believe are not accessed to their fullest potential, this being one of them. For those seeking ADC assistance, there are many quality day care centers available to help with child care while a mother attends school. The type of schooling would vary according to her individual interest and needs. I also believe programs such as STEP, Systematic Training

for Effective Parenting, should be mandatory for teenage parents and others needing knowledge of early childhood behaviors and appropriate ways in which to deal with them.

What I have not mentioned yet is that anyone receiving government assistance would be required to participate in short and long range goal setting for their future in order to receive monthly checks and food stamps. If they failed to participate, their monthly checks would stop. I think it is important for people to realize that we need to be held accountable for the choices we do or don't make. Welfare should not be a way of life for anyone, but a stepping stone to a brighter future.

One of the misgivings I have with President Clinton's welfare reform plan is that of time limits. It is a well-known fact that the key to overcoming poverty is through education, and it is unrealistic to expect to receive a four year degree in a two year time span. In all fairness to those needing assistance, I feel they need to be treated as the human beings that they are, with feelings and needs just as those not in need of assistance. We should not expect them to settle for a minimum wage job without health care just because their "time" is up.

In addition to what I have mentioned thus far, I also strongly believe that the current "top-down" way of managing welfare reform will never bring success. Individuals such as myself, who have overcome the obstacles of personal welfare reform in their own lives, should have a seat on President

Clinton's Welfare Reform Task Force. Our input would be invaluable because of our real life situations and the fact that we overcame them. I also think those presently serving should be challenged to go down to their local Department of Health and Human Services, fill out the thirty-four page form, go through the interview process, pretend they have to live on the allocated \$300.00 to \$500.00 for one month, and keep a writing journal of their feelings as they go through this experience. I would venture to guess that in sharing their findings we would hear about feelings of humiliation, invasion of privacy, degradation, and low self-esteem.

An old adage comes to mind when I think of welfare reform: "Charity begins at home." Looking at welfare reform from the standpoint of a nation becomes overwhelming and insurmountable. Yet when we break that down to the local level within each state, focus on individual intervention, utilize community resources, and allow those at "home" to develop and implement plans for success, we then begin to see a "win-win" situation.

As I mentioned earlier, I feel welfare reform directly affects education. The feelings parents have about themselves, and life in general, are conveyed to their children. If they are distraught, filled with despair, and unable to parent for one reason or another, then children are going to school without much enthusiasm for learning and stress beyond their years. Yet if parents at home feel good about personal goals they are

achieving and obstacles they are overcoming, then children, too, will take part in those feelings of pride and success; which in turn would be carried over into the classroom.

In closing, I would like to end as though I was speaking to President Clinton himself.

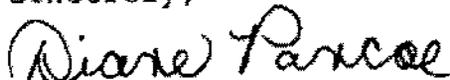
Dear Honorable President Clinton,

I urge you, on behalf of welfare reform, to implement a plan that allows for personal growth and development within a realistic frame of time, one which would foster an individual's physical, intellectual, emotional, and social needs; a plan that contains elements of "tough love" and promotes the teaching of practical life skills; a plan designed for success. I also request that you give people such as myself an opportunity to serve on the task force, knowing that our input contains wisdom beyond measure.

Your campaign, President Clinton, was based around something that has carried me through the difficult hours, something that I never lost sight of, something called "HOPE." I am now asking that we begin to give that same hope to those less fortunate than you and I.

I would appreciate, most graciously, your sincere consideration of the plan I have suggested and look forward to a response.

Sincerely,



Diane Pancoe
Akron Public Schools
Chapter I Math and Reading Tutor

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 1
LISTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE HAS HAD MATERIAL REDACTED. CONSULT THE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

THE AFDC PROGRAM WITHIN OUR PUBLIC WELFARE SYSTEM -
DOES IT ENCOURAGE OR HINDER PRODUCTIVITY WITHIN OUR SOCIETY?

Where do I begin? For me, I became aware of this part of our government almost four years ago. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], I knew I either had to find another way to survive or lose my sanity. As much as I would of liked to have lost my sanity and said, "The hell with it all," the reality of the situation was that I had four young children whose livelihoods depended on me. Even though many told me I would have to wait until the children were older before I could leave the situation, I knew this was not God's plan for neither life nor marriage. I, myself, [REDACTED] cared too much for my children to want them to have memories such as I have of my childhood. There was only one way in which I could pull this off - AFDC, Aid for Families with Dependent Children.

AFDC is a program under the Department of Health and Human Services. This department formally came into being early in 1980. Formally the Dept. of Health Education and Welfare, in 1980 Congress established a new U. S. Dept. of Education.

Departmental programs are carried out through ten Regional Offices under the supervision of Regional Directors who are responsible for the general direction of HHS activities in their respective Regions. Directors maintain close relationships with key State officials and HHS administrators in Washington.

Then there is the Office of Human Development Services. This is the agency within HHS responsible for administering social service programs for children, youth and families, the elderly, the developmentally disabled and Native Americans.

" HDS provides technical and financial assistance to States and communities for programs that protect vulnerable children and adults, help families to stay together, enable low-income and handicapped people to become self-sufficient, and prevent unnecessary institutionalization. "1

The agency works to improve the quality of human services throughout the country. Four program administrations within HDS support a wide range of projects for vulnerable populations - the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families, the Administration on Aging, the Administration on Developmental disabilities, and the Administration for Native Americans. HDS also works

¹Public Welfare Directory Reference - A Resource Guide to Human Services, 1987-88

with States and communities through several central staff offices in Washington, D.C., and ten Regional Offices.

The AFDC program is for children and their families who need money to live on because a parent is dead, disabled, absent from home, or unemployed. It is available in every state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. What matters is how much money you need to support your family, compared with what you have or earn, and what the state in which you live can provide under its standards. It is based on individual needs and is available without regard to race, color, or national origin, in accordance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Federal Government has made rules to see that States treat their AFDC families fairly and equally. But each state has its own eligibility rules within those required or permitted by the Social Security Act. Each state decides for itself how much money a family needs to buy food, clothing, and to pay for shelter, then the state decides how much money they can provide for assistance. According to the information I received from the Human Services Dept. in Akron, some states permit family income to be saved for a child's future education or other needs. I can assure you Ohio is not one of those states!

Some of the money for AFDC payments comes from the U.S. Government. So the Federal Government has made some rules that all states must follow. They are: 1. Accept an application for AFDC help from everyone who wishes to apply. 2. Decide how much they can pay or why you are not eligible within a specified period of time, but at least within forty-five days. 3. Make payments to every family that is eligible under the State's rules without regard to race, color, or national origin and make the payments effective no later than thirty days after the date of application if the family is eligible. 4. Give anyone who asks for it the opportunity for a hearing if the application was denied or not acted on promptly or if dissatisfied with the amount of assistance provided.

Once accepted for assistance, the agency needs to know how much money you earn, your expenses on the job, whether you receive income or have applied for benefits from Social Security or other government pension programs, what you own, what help friends or relatives give you, what resources you have by way of property, insurance, bank accounts or other investments or savings. In other words, they want your life history since birth and then some! They also need social security numbers for all persons including children for whom you are asking assistance. If you don't have the numbers, you have to apply for them. The agency needs to know where the children were born and how you are related to them. They need to know whether the children live with you, and whether those eighteen to twenty-one years old are in school. Of course if

the children are receiving any type of grant or aid to assist with the expense of school, you can be assured that a caseworker will try to deduct that amount from the amount of assistance you will be receiving, even though that is now illegal. The agency also needs details about the death, incapacity or continued absence of the children's parent. You will be required to assign to the agency rights to any child support payments received from the absent parent or any other person. Also, cooperation is expected in establishing the father for children born out of wedlock and in locating the absent father.

After all the above information is determined, the agency then decides if you must register for WIN (Work Incentive Program). Unless you are caring for a child under six in your home or have another good reason for not working, you must sign up for WIN to be eligible for AFDC. At this point in time, I'm not sure if WIN is only a rule in Ohio or all states. WIN helps people to either find work or to receive the necessary job training. In the handout from the county, it is suggested that even if not required, a person take advantage of WIN because, "Even a part-time job may mean extra money for your family." They neglect to add that because of that "part-time" income, you may lose over half of your benefits entitled to you because of that income (work incentive, right?!). Once on AFDC, a person is also eligible for medical care and services under the State's Medicaid program. This, in itself, is priceless to those who find themselves needing to resort to public assistance.

Another informative pamphlet given out by the Office of Public Information is called "Statistics at a Glance." According to this, there are 32,370,000 (32.4 million) people in the U.S. living below the government's official poverty line. As far as AFDC is concerned, the Government says that ADC families are getting smaller. Their statistics are as follows: Characteristic studies of ADC recipients, conducted nationwide in 1969 and 1979, show that 70.5 percent of ADC families had only one or two children in 1979 (49.6 percent in 1969). Large ADC families were less common in 1979, with only 13.9 percent of families having four or more children. As the size of the family grows, the dollar amount per person goes down. The statistics also had that ADC grants in Ohio were increased by five percent in January 1984. Grants had not been raised since July, 1979. Grants were then raised by five percent in January 1985, and by four percent in January 1986. An additional two percent increase in February of 1987 made the ADC grant received by a family of three \$309.00 per month. Out of that grant comes rent, utilities, clothing for the family, transportation, school expenses, and personal and incidental items. Low-income public housing units are available, but the waiting list to get in averages two to four years. Medical assistance, emergency assistance, heating

during winter months, and school lunch programs are available, but these do not provide the regular cash income the family needs to meet basic year-round living expenses.

Section 5101.161 of the New Ohio Revised Code is in regards to certification of funds; public assistance fund; and quarterly estimate. According to this section, sometime prior to December sixteenth, annually, the department of human services must certify to the board of county commissioners of each county the amount estimated by the department to be needed in the following calendar year to meet the county share of expenditures for aid, health care, and administration. I'll need to read Chapter 5107 for further research into how they figure the exact amount of need. The paragraph goes on to read, "At the beginning of the calendar year, the board of county commissioners shall appropriate the amount certified by the department for the current calendar year, reduced or increased by the amount of the adjusted balance or deficit in the public assistance fund at the end of the preceding calendar year as determined by department of human services rules. The attorney general shall bring mandamus proceedings against any board which fails to make such an appropriation and timely transfer to the public assistance fund as directed by department of human service rules." I'm curious as to what the human service rules are. I can see I have by research cut out for me! The section goes on to read that all funds provided under this section should be placed in a special public assistance fund within the county treasury. All moneys received from the state government for the purposes of Chapters 5107 and 5113 of the Revised Code are supposed to be deposited in the county treasury to the credit of the public assistance fund. The department is also supposed to prepare a voucher at least quarterly authorizing payment from the state public assistance subsidy for the estimated difference between the local share of state expenditures and the sum of the state and federal shares of local expenditures.

Section 5104.18, of the Revised Code is in regards to payments treated as income in determining aid. The director of human services is the one who determines what payments to any individual applying for or receiving aid should be regarded as income or resources. In determining this, the director considers the source and amount of payment, the purpose for which the payment was made, and whether regarding the payment as income would be in the public interest. The director is also supposed to take into consideration whether treating the payment as income would be detrimental to any of the programs administered in whole or in part by the department of human services and whether such determination would jeopardize the receipt of any federal grant or payment by the state.

I found Section 5101.17 of the Revised Code to be of such interest to me. It is in regards to Income under Economic Opportunity Act. I would like to quote the first paragraph. "In determining the need of any person under Chapter 5107. or 5113. of the Revised Code, the first eighty-five dollars plus one-half of the excess over eighty-five dollars of payments made to or in behalf of any person for or with respect to any month under Title I or II of the "Economic Opportunity Act of 1964," 78 Stat. 508, 42 U.S.C.A. 2701, as amended, shall not be regarded as income or resources. No payments made under such titles shall be regarded as income or resources of another individual except to the extent that they are made available to the other individual. No grant made to any family under Title III of such act shall be regarded as income or resources in determining the need of any member of such family under Chapter 5107. or 5113. of the Revised Code." The reason I found this paragraph to be so interesting is because now I'm going to explain to you exactly how determination is really figured.

Our county ADFC program considers the first seventy-five dollars as a disregard, not the eighty-five as in the code. It also considers not the one-half of the excess over the first seventy-five dollars, but what they call thirty dollars and one-third disregard. They deduct thirty dollars and one-third of that amount off of your total income for a period of four months. After four months, they only deduct seventy-five dollars and one-third of that amount. After thirteen months, they only deduct seventy-five dollars. After this, there is no disregard. In some circumstances, a person might be able to have a disregard up to twenty months, but after twenty months they should be in a position to go completely off ADFC, because from this point on their benefits are reduced so drastically that it is no longer worth their while to work. The individual actually is penalized for trying! The individual is also only allowed to have \$1,000 in assets (home and personal property not counted) and cannot have a car valued over \$1,500. If they do, their benefits either are reduced drastically or they become ineligible for assistance any longer. And as recently as July of 1987, a caseworker told me my AFDC benefits were going to be reduced according to the amount of my grant I was to receive for my education at Akron University. Had I not been familiar with the above code, I would be receiving reduced benefits because I'm choosing to further my education so that in a few years I will be in a position to go off of AFDC completely.

This research has raised some questions for me. Where did our county come up with their method of determining an individual's continuing eligibility? I was told by Western Reserve Legal Aid that the Ohio Revised Code was the

"nuts and bolts of the rules and regulations within our Human Services Department." Yet according to my research thus far, the county is not following that code. And why aren't the caseworkers familiar with the rules and regulations regarding that code? How are they prepared for their job? What research or reading materials are they required to become familiar with before becoming a caseworker? While reading the Revised Code in regards to AFDC, another thought came to mind. Could it be that the AFDC program within the Human Services Department really is set up to help an individual work his/her way out an unpleasant situation and the County officials working within honestly don't know the guidelines according to the Revised Code? Or are County officials mismanaging the funds being sent to them from the state? I honestly don't know the answers to these questions. I do realize, though, that because of my situation and awareness of how to overcome it, I definitely intend to find out the answers to the above questions.

In conclusion, I'd like to end with a statistic from the "Statistics at a Glance" publication. "According to a study released in 1987 by the General Accounting Office, an investigative arm of Congress, there is no conclusive evidence that welfare greatly discourages people from working, breaks up families, or encourages unmarried women to become pregnant to receive benefits. The study reached its conclusions after reviewing more than 100 welfare studies completed since 1975." Considering that in Summit county alone there are more than 50,000 people and more than 20 million people nationally receiving public assistance, I would question the validity of this study. I've listed the facts as I've researched them thus far. Back to my original question, The AFDC program within our Public Welfare System - does it encourage or hinder productivity within our society? I'll let you be the judge of that...

Bruce Reed
Room 216
Old Executive Office Building
725-17th Street
N.W. Washington, DC 20503

A13-7 Slocum Heights
Syracuse, NY 13210
Sept. 27, 1994

Re: Welfare reform

Dear Mr. Reed,

I think two year limits on welfare is a good idea, which may seem surprising coming from a single mother currently on welfare. At the same time, two year limits concern me. I am attending school to earn a bachelors degree in environmental studies, and my son is two years old.

One concern is that single parents will not be able to support their families. My other concern is that those who wish to pursue a four year degree will be unable to do so in the future. A good education should not be denied considering the benefits to our country.

Trying to raise a child and going to school full time is hard work. By achieving my degree I will have lived the American work ethic: 'If you work hard you will get somewhere in life.' I will be able to stay off all forms of public assistance and provide a good example to my son. My degree will enable me to get a job that will some day pay for my son's college education, thereby, not continuing a cycle of welfare.

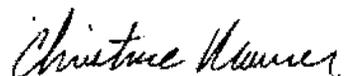
We who are raising the next generation are concerned with what happens in our cities, states, and country. No one wants their child growing up in a "bad" neighborhood. The better our education the more likely we will be to get involved and make informed decisions regarding our communities.

If you are going to put two year limits on welfare, just training people isn't good enough. Kerry Mack was written about in the September sixth issue of the Democrat and Chronicle. (Copy enclosed) She has been on and off welfare for ten years. She has done volunteer work and she has worked whenever she could find a job. She has taken eight different training courses. When I spoke to her, she said she had cumulatively spent four years in training programs.

Here is an obviously intelligent person who should have been put through a two or four year college program. If she had spent four years in college instead of training programs she would probably be self-sufficient by now. Unfortunately, welfare offices discourage education. I was discouraged when I told them of my plans for a four year degree, but I knew what was best for me and my son.

In theory, I agree with two year limits. When I see women in the welfare office with white lips (a sign of crack addiction) and young children, it sickens me. However, it also sickens me when I see an intelligent person, who wants to do better for themselves, be kept down by an out of date bureaucracy.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Maurer".

Christine Maurer

cc: President Clinton
Mary Jo Bane
Donna E. Shalala

Training hasn't helped her

By TRIF ALATZAS
STAFF WRITER

Kerrye Mack believes she has been "trained out" when it comes to her search for a job.

The 32-year-old Webster woman, who has been on and off welfare for 10 years, has been trained as a cosmetologist and day-care provider. She also has taken courses to become a travel agent and learned the basics in finding a job, resume writing, getting letters of reference and targeting her skills.

But she can't find a job that pays enough to take care of her four children and has health benefits. Mack knows that anything she earns would be taken away almost dollar for dollar.

Mack tells her story as she flips through a black, three-ring binder that holds dozens of certificates of achievement, training diplomas and letters of reference. "We have to stop all this training," she said. "And make it mandatory that people on social services get at least get an associate's degree. That holds more weight than saying I took eight different training classes."

Mack has four children. The oldest is 16; the youngest is 4. She has never been married, but she got a court order for the father of two of her children to pay child support. He paid that support for about a month — and then lost his job.

Mack believes welfare should help find work for spouses who don't live with their families so they can pay child support.

"Don't stereotype me," Mack said. "I've never been in rehab, my kids have never been in foster care and there has always been food on the table, but people like me are always getting browbeaten."



Tired of trying Kerrye Mack, second from right, with three of her four children; from left, Keyahna, 13; Knekose, 9; and Kneshara, 4. Mack can't find a job that pays enough and has health benefits.

Between food stamps and public assistance, Mack's family receives \$702 a month in public assistance. The family lives in a government-subsidized, four-bedroom apartment in the village of Webster. She owns an old Dodge station wagon, which she bought when she was working. Things such as movies and trips to amusement parks for her children usually are provided by friends and family members.

Mack has done volunteer work for local candidates and organiza-

tions and has joined various causes. She worked part-time for the Monroe County Board of Elections as a filing clerk in 1988. She also worked as a welfare clerk from 1990-1992 but was laid off because of county budget cuts.

Public assistance provided her with day care, transportation and lunch while she was being trained for various jobs. But Mack said after getting the training, no one followed up to see if she found work.

"You're just another statistic

once you're finished," she said. "That's just wasting money."

Though she hasn't found work, Mack has big dreams.

She'd like to become a fashion model or actress — writing, directing and producing a film about being on welfare. She also is a poet, would like to be a songwriter and wants her own line of cosmetics.

"You have to think positive," she said. "I do get frustrated. But it's never too late and I always have to keep the faith." □

DARCY CHANG staff photographer

Mr. Bruce Reed

Ms. Mary Jo Bairn

Mr. David Elwood

Domestic Policy Council

OEOB

Room 216

Washington, D.C. 20500

Shut
letter 9/17
WRWG

I talked with our local welfare agency regarding some serious concerns which I, as well as many of my friends and family, have about the current welfare system. They suggested that I contact you.

While my concerns are rather specific in nature and I will explain them to you, it's become clear that the real problem is in the mentality of the people who are directing the welfare problem at the local through the national level. I think the real need is for intensive in-servicing of personnel so that the word "entitlement" is reinterpreted to mean that the truly needy - that is the disabled - are entitled to temporary assistance and training until they may become employed - which is expected.

I would not include women who freely chose to become pregnant as disabled. Therefore, I don't believe that they should receive benefits.

My real concern over the whole system is my concern over government's use of taxpayer money in every area that they administer - that is, the waste. I find it hard to believe that food stamps may be used to purchase salad bar items, gourmet frozen T.V. dinners, 20 bakery shop cakes, cakes, ice-cream cones, candy bars, potato chips etc. etc. etc. I've

written to senators, the Department of Agriculture and
anyone else who seems appropriate and their response
is invariably "Oh well, if they do this the
recipients will run out of food stamps before the end
of the month and well run them through a training
course, send them to a food pantry to hide them
over and they'll learn." Baloney!

If you do nothing else in your welfare reform
movement you should outlaw the use of food stamps for
grocery "food".

In addition, I think you need to outlaw the
use of food stamps in carrying out and other expensive
convenience stores. I'm tired of hearing that they
have to be able to shop in their neighborhood because of
lack of transportation. During a tough time when I
was a kid we helped my mother's grocery shop
by dragging a wagon from home to supermarket.

Now, about these public housing units. These are
terrible beds of crime and drug activity. They are breeding
grounds for future populations of welfare recipients and
it's time for the government to get out of the business
of being a landlord. They simply need to be shut-down
and people need to be told that paying the rent on a
roof over your head is an adult responsibility which
is theirs at the age of 18.

By now you may be shaking your head at
these simple solutions. I realize that there are people
who won't pay the rent and will become homeless. This
is their choice. I realize that some welfare parents will
have difficulty finding a job or a baby-sitter or both. Life is
like that - you have to solve your problems.

As far as children going hungry or homeless. This shouldn't happen. At one point we had orphanages to care for the children of incompetent or irresponsible parents. Let's go back to that. At one point we had mental institutions to care for the incompetent. Let's go back to that. There is no sense in having the homeless problem which we have in our country and there is no sense in having rich used by people for a few meal tickets in life.

I thank you for your time and interest in my comment and sincerely hope that you consider these suggestions.

Sincerely

Ray F. Haun

1338 Phillips Ave.

Dayton, Ohio 45410

April 26, 1994

Dear President Bill Clinton;

Hello-My name is Sandra McCall and I live in Prineville, Oregon. I am a 20 year old single mother, I am going to school to get a nursing degree and I will be graduating in one year with my medical transcription degree, and then continue to get my nursing degree. I have been on welfare on and off since my son was born in 1991. When I started college in 1992 my welfare stopped because I was getting a Pell Grant from the college. Which was barley enough to support myself let alone my son too. I took a break from school and went to work for awhile and then returned back to college March of this year. When I did this the welfare again told me that they could not help me with child care or cash assistance.

I cannot understand why I cannot get any child care or cash assistance help when I am trying to get an education so my son and I won't have to be on welfare ever again. I do not abuse the welfare system. I feel that it should be there for people who really need it.

I see and hear of people who keep having kids and stay on welfare. They don't try to get a job or go to school to help themselves get off of welfare, it is considered easy money to them. Plus I know of people who use their welfare grants for drug money, which makes me very, very angry.

I have thought about quitting school and getting a job, and try to save money for college but that would be almost impossible. I can't have a minimum wage job and save money. I would barley be able to make ends meet.

I am sure you have more important things to worry about than some single mother trying to better hers and her sons lives, but President Clinton please think about all I have said. If I didn't need the help of welfare I wouldn't be wasting your time and mine with this letter. I feel that if a person is willing to educate themselves, then all of the available sources should be there.

Sincerely;

Sandra McCall

925 Rimrock RD
Prineville, OR 97754

728
P-327
~~Request~~
~~Request~~
~~Request~~

Dear Mr. Clinton,

I hope you are able to read my letter or atleast notified about a fear that I have. It is my understanding that you will be unveiling your plan for welfare reforms. I am currently a welfare recipient and am in what seems to be a no win battle trying to get out.

Let me start by telling you that last year I tried to venture out of the welfare system but got sucked back in. My outlook was that after I paid for children and car expenses, I was left with an average of \$20.00 a week. I wasn't getting anywhere but I hung in until I had car problems. My boss was kind enough to loan me the money to fix the car, which I paid back by working extra hours with no pay. The end result was I could not pay the baby sitter and found myself going to churches to get food for my children. I had to quit because I was far more in debt than before I got the job.

I would also like to let you know a little bit about me. I don't like to be lumped together with the majority of people on

2

welfare. I Do Not Drink, smoke,
or Do Drugs. I Do Not use my
welfare check to keep up with
the latest fashions, nor do I
go to the salon to fill my nails.
I struggle to pay my bills and
feed my children. My parents are
Deceased so I dont have anyone
I could count on in case of
an emergency. I am not lazy, in
fact I volunteer everyday at my
daughters school. (They allow me
to bring my younger child so I
can help).

Mr. President, I am really worried
that if you drop welfare I will
be forced to give up my children.
I cant sleep at night fearing
I will lose my kids. I refuse
to be homeless with my children.
I would not put them through that.
I Dont know anything about
politics or how the country is
run. I understand that the welfare
system does need to be reformed,
so I would like to suggest
a couple of ways that wouldn't
hurt those of us who really
need it.

I. If you have a two parent
household, one parent must work

3
or register to work. There is no reason why both parents must be unemployed.

II. The state must crack down on the fathers to pay a fair amount of Child support. My ex-husband has his boss write him a check for \$100.00 a week and takes home an extra \$700.00 in cash. The reason is so he doesn't have to pay much Child support. This is not fair to us struggling mothers or our children.

III. No benefits for anyone who isn't a citizen. I could tell you several ways people come from other countries and collect benefits. I have seen first hand how it is done.

IV. Drug Testing - social workers could randomly call and request we take a test. We could send in our results with our monthly reports. Those people who test positive should be suspended from the AFDC program.

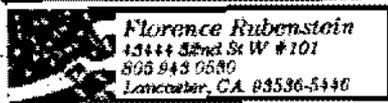
V. Allow those of us needing our AFDC grant to do volunteer work in exchange for our check. We could do volunteer work at our parks, schools, libraries, anywhere we are needed. Several

4
Volunteers could even watch our children in a empty office or Church for those of us who can't afford childcare.

VI. Help those of us wanting to get an education get one. The state should offer us extra aid if we are enrolled in a school with no childcare, & I personally cannot afford a babysitter if I'm not making any money.

I hope that maybe you could think about the ideas I have suggested, it might not be enough of ^a but in your mind, but you would be surprised at how much would be saved. Many people on welfare have no right to receive it, but there are some of us that need it. I don't want to loose my children because of people who take advantage of the system.

Thanks so much for taking the time to read my letter.



Sincerely,
Florence Rubenstein

** if possible could you send me a rough draft of how you plan on reforming welfare

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 2
LISTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE HAS HAD MATERIAL REDACTED. CONSULT THE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

Dear Mr. President.

4/2/94

p. 30 I'm writing to you in regards to the welfare reform. I don't know very much about what you want or are able to do about welfare reform. I just know the system doesn't work. There are many women like me. My story is a common one.

I was twenty two when I had my daughter Johanna. She's now three.

[Redacted]

[R60A160]

I was seven months along.
I've been lucky my
family helped me move
to Phoenix where I know
live. Todd Nesbitt is Jess's
father he lives in Salt
Lake City, Ut. He has
never paid child support.
I choose to keep my
job with Smith's food
Drug. after the birth of
my child. I would be
getting child support

if I had gone on
welfare. I have tried
to sue Todd for support
but I have no money
for a lawyer. I filed
with the Child Support
enforcement office.

But since I'm not on
welfare they lost my
file for two years. So
in Jan. of '94 I filed
for the third time. I
was told it would take
three months to get
to the Utah courts. But

it's not there yet. It's
been approved and
on its way to the county
clerk's office. I think.
That's what I've been
told by (yet again) a
new case worker. Every-
time I call to talk to
my case worker it's some-
one new, and it's not even
left this state!

I feel I'm being
punished by the system.
I didn't have an abortion

when birth control failed.
I do believe in abortion
but I choose to have the
child, along with Todd.

[REDACTED]

I've tried to better my
life and my child.
Because I'm honest
and hard working I get
no help from the system.
I'd make more money
by not working but I have
too much pride, and I don't
believe that anyone
should get a free ride.

All I want is that
Todd take his responsibility
and do what's right.

I'm just another
face in the crowd. A
crowd that's full of
Women and children
Not as powerful as some.

But good women who
love their children and
work hard to care for
them. Please hear us.

We need change. Change
for what's just and Right
Not just another Rich.

mass solution. To a problem
he might not understand.

So when you're making
laws and changes. Please
think of young women
like me, and our child-
ren.

Yours Truly,

Kristin A. Fealy

K.A. Lasky
1620 N. 5th St #107
Phx. Az. 85003



President
Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington

P. 132
3/24/94
Mr. President Clinton,

I AM A 24 YEAR OLD EDUCATED SINGLE MOTHER TRYING TO GET OFF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. I HAVE BEEN WORKING PART-TIME (ABOUT 30 HOURS PER WEEK) SINCE NOVEMBER. I HAVE TO PAY FOR CHILD CARE BECAUSE MY DAUGHTER IS ONLY 4 YEARS OLD.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE KEEPS GIVING ME CASH ASSISTANCE TO HELP FOR CHILD CARE EXPENSES BUT FOR APRIL THEY CLAIM I SHOULDN'T RECEIVE ANY CASH AND IN MAY I SHOULD RECEIVE CASH ASSISTANCE AGAIN. I CANNOT GET TRANSITIONAL CHILD CARE BECAUSE MY CASH ASSISTANCE CASE IS NOT CLOSED. I CANNOT RECEIVE TITLE 20 TO HELP PAY FOR CHILD CARE EXPENSES BECAUSE I AM ENTITLED TO TRANSITIONAL CHILD CARE BENEFITS.

BECAUSE OF THIS BUREAUCRATIC MESS, I WILL HAVE TO QUIT WORK AT THE END OF MARCH BECAUSE I CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY \$300 PER MONTH FOR CHILD CARE AND I WILL HAVE TO GO BACK ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TOTALLY. I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE GETTING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DOESN'T AND WON'T TRY TO GET OFF.

Thank You,

Anita M. Stauffer

ANITA M. STAUFFER
 2100 EAST LINCOLN STREET
 EASTON, MD 21829 (410) 353-4184

File:
WR - letters

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

ROUTE SLIP

TO <u>Bruce</u>	Take necessary action	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Keith</u>	Approval or signature	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Comment	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Prepare reply	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Discuss with me	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For your information	<input type="checkbox"/>
	See remarks below	<input type="checkbox"/>

FROM Belle DATE 7-22

REMARKS

Why dont people like this
write to Michael would?

May 31, 1994

Barry Anderson, Asst. Dir.
Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Anderson,

For the past two years, I've taught in a program in Houston, TX, aimed at helping AFDC clients obtain a G.E.D. My students are all women on welfare, from 18-45 years old, with 2-6 dependent children each, average. They are U. S. citizens, not immigrants. About half are second generation welfare recipients. They speak freely of living with boyfriends, "husbands" or mothers who are also receiving public assistance.

I teach Adult Basic Education, which corresponded to grades K- 6 in the public schools. Some can't read. Most don't know multiplication tables, and decimals, fractions and percents are over all their heads.

The Human Services Dept. provides them with a free bus pass (\$360.00/yr. value), and free day care. The school provides free text-workbooks and school supplies. If the women drive their own cars to school, they get a gas reimbursement. One of my students acquired a car and is driving to school, but she won't tell DHS because she's still getting the bus card, too.

The AFDC students are supposed to attend class 20 hrs. a week. Their attendance is regulated monthly by DHS. If it falls below a 75% participation level, they will lose their day care. That's what the "system" tells them. More than half of the women in my class do not meet the participation level, but they are allowed to stay on my roll because "we need the numbers". Meanwhile, there is a waiting list of other people who want to come to school, but, because space is limited, I don't have room for them.

It has been said that the student can only be reinstated one time after they fail to meet the required participation level. The ones who get "dropped" turn right around and get a new referral to come to school, because they have learned to work the system. Half of the seats in my class are "occupied" by people who fail to show up as required.

Many of the women in my class frequently come dressed in new clothes, with salon hairstyles, sculpted nails, and wear a lot of jewelry. Please understand that I am not against women on welfare wanting to look nice. But when a woman jumps up in the middle of class and announces she must leave early because she has to renew her health club membership, I think something is wrong. Where do they get the money for these things if they are "on welfare"? How many of the government benefits are "trickling down" to meet the nutritional, educational and physical needs of their children?

Among those who do attend class, some won't even pick up a pencil. I have to coax, beg or bargain with them to do classwork, or open their books or work some math problems. When I ask them why they are coming to school, I get responses like "We have to so we can get our check", or "if we don't, they'll short our food stamps." I think the AFDC legislation went astray when it assumed that people on welfare had the maturity, self-discipline and education to handle checks and food stamps in a responsible way. One of my students uses her check for lottery tickets; another talks of selling her food stamps for cash.

So that you won't write me off as a callous person, I want to tell you that I was born into a "welfare" family. I am the sixth of eleven children. In the 50's and early 60's my parents didn't get checks or food stamps. A woman we called the "soup lady" came to us weekly with food and medicine. She took us to the doctor if we needed to go. She was a person who related to us, not a bureaucracy.

When I was 15, I went to live away from my family, because I would not give in to the pressure to quit school and go to work full time. I rented a room in a widow's house, and got a restaurant job by lying about my age. I paid \$10/wk. for my room and bought my own food. I was the first in my family to graduate from high school. My history teacher and counselor helped me enroll in a state college. I worked two part-time jobs and received a grant and a scholarship. I made the Dean's list and graduated on schedule. I have since obtained a Master's as well.

Even though you might say I overcame the odds, I feel like the odd one out. My students have health care through Medicaid. I have been without health insurance for two years because I am a part-time employee at two part-time jobs. I can't afford health insurance, but I am taxed so that my students can have it. I don't get paid for sick days (I've missed one day in two years). I can't even afford to be a good citizen and serve on a jury, because I won't get paid for the time off.

Should a financial crisis arise, I can only hope that some of my good friends can help me out. If I lose a job due to budget cuts or downsizing, I can't draw unemployment, because I am only a part-time employee. I am not married and have no children. I have tried to live a responsible life. Because of this, I am less well off than the AFDC students I teach.

I accepted my teaching position because I felt that I, a survivor of welfare and poverty, would be an inspiration to these students. Forget that! How can they be inspired to change their lives when they have it better off than I do?

My plea to the government is: Please find a way to feed the "real" poor (not the ones who buy top brands with food stamps). Please clothe the naked, and stop doling out checks that go to purchase designer clothes. Do something to provide shelter for the homeless, instead of paying the rental fees on leather furniture and VCR's. Stop giving benefits to the adult children of America who have no intention of becoming self-reliant. Give the death sentence to this lifestyle that the "Great Society" birthed.

If our country must keep AFDC, let's change the acronym to ACDP: Aid to Children with Dependent Parents.

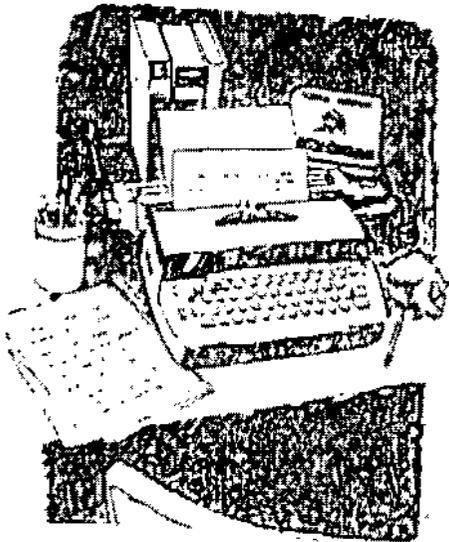
Most respectfully,

Teresa R. Moore

Teresa R. Moore
4331 1/2 Pease St.
Houston, TX 77023
713-921-1251

X# CREATIVE ENTERPRISES

"Ideas Unlimited"



BOX 69R
WADING RIVER, N.Y. 11792

LONG ISLAND
516-929-4102

December 21, 1993

Mr. Bruce Reed, Domestic Advisor
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Reed,

I have read with great interest, an article from the Washington Post, here on Long Island, New York re: "Clinton Weighs Cutting Welfare For Non Citizens". A 33 member Inter-agency Task Force Preparing Welfare Reform.

Our Great guy in that Oval Office, did mention in his campaign, "To end Welfare as we know it!" Many facts and figures were presented, and as one seven-ocer and knowing where I am going, did mention in my letter to DEE DEE Myers, that I would serve our Comdr. in Chief for one dollar a year, and be his little man behind the scene, as one Public Advocate & Liaison P.R. man...We Veterans of WWI, only serve our Chief..He is our Chief, and President of these United States

Enclosed you will find a reply rejection slip from Dee Dee... (a very large one at that), and also my second letter to our Mr. President, Bill Clinton. No reply, but my articles were sent, with the sound intent, with knowledge, and Wisdom which our President needs that input and feedback, to move his agenda and programs forward...One carbon copy, which was sent to local Writers here with the Daily News...This letter will be that start that you and your task force, can use readily..

Lastly you will find my recent article on all that pure nonsense and bullstuff, labeling our President with SEXGATE. What a shame and what a waste....For you and yours ..Also you will see where my various trips to Murmansk Russia during WWI, and bringing it up todate, where we as Americans who fought in WWI, and with Crime on our streets, and all this Gun toting, with young marginal youths...who have yet to serve, and want their cake and eat it too, knowing like your Domestic doings, right or wrong, the Govt. owes them a living and all those free 62 Welfare programs, will take care of them with their special rights, even in Prison or out on those streets, they have proven they, themselves are the true ENEMY...

Thanking you for reading my letter, and the very best to all in that White House, and I am ready to serve on a mature level, and not be seeking fame or fortune, but getting this country on the right track with all that Bill Clinton is trying to achieve with only his first year.. I have served our former President Mr. Bush, and look around my house, you will see, what four fingers can do in typing and getting back those well versed replys...

Sincerely,

Vic Mino

Bob Menn-writer

October 19, 1993

Mr. Al Baker, Staff Writer
Daily News
New York, New York

Dear Al,

I have kept your recent article, "Welfare ID Bill Passes", and with all the coverage on Medicaid, and Arthur Browne's editorial on 10/18/93, "Time For Medicaid Justice", and tentative doings on Clinton's Health doings and future Welfare reforms for the needy and the poor in the State of New York, suggest you, your Editor, Lou "C", and Annette Puentes do a piece of research and investigative study to end this nonsense once and for all.

As a seven-ear, and knowing where I am going tell you this: "A man can walk with a wooden leg, and he can eat with false teeth, but he cannot see through a glass eye, without Vision, there is no purpose in being here on planet earth!"

Many years ago, this humble writer wrote to our Gov. Mario Cuomo, regarding Welfare Cheating. As one who fought in WWII, and serving here (U.S. A.) and abroad, in order to receive our PAY, we had to show our ID (Photo and serial No.), sign that voucher and were fingerprinted.

Al, the key, is the serial number and being fingerprinted, along with that photo. Now you may ask, "But that is illegal and not right!" As the above GI doings of yesteryear, should be a must today. Now the costs will be questioned. Who will pay for it and why? It is so simple, the small cost will be deducted from that Welfare check, similar for Health Insurance, for those of us on Medicare. "You don't see it, so you don't miss it!"

Again, you three above mentioned, find out how many rich kids are receiving lunch in our city schools and are actually paying for it, and how many children are getting free breakfast, and free lunch. Again, another small deduction from that taxpayers doing in paying for the poor and needy. Nothing is free nor should we, the ~~some~~ Wife taxpayer be reminded of Jimmy Cricket (Cliff Arquet) singing that song in Pinocchio, "Oh The World Owe Me A Living!"

Maybe by doing the above, we can save millions, but those recipients will gain a little pride and hopefully become proud, and appreciate this help until they are able to take advantage of all those programs, education and so forth, and get off this so-called public assistance. During the depression, we were poor but we had pride and love of family, love of our great city, and proud to serve our country.

In Detroit, a Supt. Of schools, a great leader and female, believes if those Welfare Parents or Parent, don't make sure those kids are attending school, she makes sure, those checks are taken away. (welfare)

Thanking you for reading my letter, and will help, the Daily News help solve all touchy issues regarding Social reform. (Have a NATION

Victor
Sincerely,

Victor Mino - (Bob Menn writer

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

" America Today: "Black and White Nonsense Ceases Today"

By Bob Menn (pen)

Our Nation, these recent months have been bombarded by the News Media, and all who put those words down as our so-called Journalists; Dividing our Nation as to Black and White confrontations, due to that simple God Given, PIGMENTATION OF THE SKIN...One White, one Black.

A few days ago, headlines here and headlines there concerning, one sweet little guy, who was labeled a child Molester, child this and child that...His name is Mr. Michael Jackson...A classic performer, who could do it all on that stage, and entertain millions of people, and has helped unite children all over the World...He is labeled "CHILDGATE". This writer says loud and clear, "Leave this nice Kid alone. These God Given writer's, want their Newspaper and T.V. media, to sell Copy, not quality of the good things, this lovable individual did all these years. Resulting in our So-Called Black Leaders to claim, Harrasement to only the Blacks who make it in this nation...Hogwash, you leaders one more ti

Now comes another shocker, "Shock Drama" media doings one more time, labeling our Commander in Chief, our nice guy, for all the people of this Nation, and who sits in that Oval Office in Washington, and is called our President...The President of these United States (are we really united with all the above difference of that pigmentation of the skin..?) ^{OR} (actually seeing a war of the Epidermis). Now OUR own President is labeled also, as a womanizer, and his own SEXGATE while he was the former Governor of Arkansas. Our President is White, Michael Jackson is Black (both are beautiful People) and we have really sick people in this land of insouciance cashing in (\$\$\$) on the ill Fai of others. What kind of people are we...? (HA, Ha, Ha, it happened to th NOT ME...ME..ME...) "We should say a prayer for both, and turn that chee

SOTHERE!

Vic #
12/21/93
8:41 AM

Victor Mino
Wading River, N.Y.
Dec. 17, 1993 5 A.M.

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

"Guns Of Yesteryear And Guns
Of Today"

By Bob Mann

It seems like only yesterday
this little Italian Kid from
B'Klyn N.Y. (Park Slope) made
those trips to Russia..Two Big
ones...This article is not the
true story, for those of us ^{wh-} were
there....Some of us are alive,
others have died, and others
were small children, old
adults, and Norwegians of all
Ages....my prayers are always
with them...

Russia was our Ally, but
were they? The night of all
nights, being docked in
Murmansk, this little sailor
(me) was standing on that

Gangplank on DUTY, with a "45 " cal. gun on his right hip...Below and on that
dock was one Russian Soldier...We on our Ship, the theys on guard duty below,
for the approach Gangplank (A ladder to get on Board this Liberty Ship).It
seems one Radio Operator did drink his free Water Glasses of Vodka(Uncles Joes
Govt. approved firewater)(each of ^{us} received three free drinks-Vodka Style). This
sailor (American) was so Drunk and they were trying to bring him home aboard
(his fellow shipmates) but this Russian Soldier would not let him come aboard
because he lost his pass..A pass to see a Frozen piece of land, and people,
Russkies, who put butter on their boots, ate sugar squares, compliments of

Cargo of honors for WWII sailors

By TONY SEIDEMAN
Special to The News

On awkward, overloaded ships, they
braved a gantlet of submarines, bomb-
ers, torpedo boats and cold — a sear-
ing cold that could rip the life from a
floating man in a few quick minutes.

In the process, they played a vital
role in keeping the Soviet Union in
World War II.

And on Saturday, at the United
States Merchant Marine Academy, a
few veteran merchant seamen dis-
played their reward: an inch-round
circle of bronze from the Soviet gov-
ernment.

"It was a fearful time," says Hugh
Stephens, 67, of Port Washington, L.I.
Stephens' round trip to Murmansk
lasted from November 1944 to March
1945. A convoy of 30 ships arrived at
the Soviet port. Just 15 survived the
trip back.

About 800 cargo ships made the
Murmansk run during World War II.
Ninety-eight ships were sunk. Many of
the few who survived the deaths of
their ships lost fingers, toes, arms and
legs to the merciless icy air and water.

Sounds of hell

Veterans of the run remember the
shrieking Arctic wind, the never-end-
ing sound of depth charges exploding
day in and day out, in ceaseless, des-
perate and often futile attempts to
keep the U-boats at bay, and the
screaming dives, bombs and bullets of
Nazi bombers.

Arriving at Murmansk brought little
relief.

For Bernie Flatow, 65, of Floral
Park, Queens, the images of a people
still crushed under the stolid gray
hand of Stalinism will never fade.

He said the Russians were so strict
that they did not even allow the Allies

to fire their guns in their own defense
while docked at Murmansk, where the
Germans sometimes made dozens of
raids in a day.

"It was a terrible feeling not to be
able to fire back and to be under their
supervision," he said at Saturday's
ceremonies at the academy, in Kings
Point, L.I.

In 1985, on the 40th anniversary of
the "Great Patriotic War," the Soviet
Union awarded medals to partici-
pants. Canadians and Australians got
theirs. Americans were conveniently
forgotten.

Catching up

After a multi-year fight, the medals
are coming, in stages. Saturday's cere-
mony honored the latest batch of 158
recipients, and all the merchant sea-
men who fought and died in World
War II.

A separate celebration will take
place today. Five Murmansk veterans
will speak about their voyages from 4
p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Seamen's Church
Institute at 241 Water St., Manhattan.

The session will honor members of
the Naval Armed Guard, who helped
protect the merchant ships while they
were under way.

Brooklyn native Mike Molinari
joined the unit so he could fight in
World War II. He recalls how he
found out about Murmansk:

Boarding the liberty ship Andrew
Carnegie, he was told by the depart-
ing crew. "You'll be sorry! You know
where you're going? You're going to
Murmansk, Russia."

"Where the hell is that?" Molinari
asked.

"You'll find out," they laughed.
Molinari did, and he survived to tell
the tale — which he'll do today at the
Seaman's Church Institute event.

The event is open to the public.

Land Lead Bill American Style "We in America gave all to an unknown peopl

....Digress-yes, but this Sailor was being hit by this Russian's Rifle over and over again,--SOOOOOOOO,--this--ItTTTMan Kid,--kept--saying,--NYET--Comrade, NYET Comrade and he was walking down that gangplank, and slowly this 45 MM gun was taken out of its holster, and pointing at this Russkie and still saying, Nyet Comrade (No Friend-Friend of What) until this American sailor was inches away from this Russians head, but that gun (45) was pointing at his forehead, and soon it was inches away from his face, and this sailor was going to do something, that God alone could do, to pull that trigger and blow another Human Being Away...(Typical of our inner Cities, and Man, Man Man mentality). With my eyes looking straight into his(Ruskie Baby) he let the Sailor come aboard his own AMERICAN Ship..We brought Supplies to help an Ally, but did we really help? Did we MAKE Those Russians too powerful , too touchy, too Big for their Britches, and then make them partners (this CoED Top Bannas in the United Nations)..What a waste and shame...

This writer, proved one thing way back then, "You fight Fire with Fire," and we see American Kids today, Mostly Black, mostly Marginal mostly influenced by so-called Black Leaders, the Likes of Jackson, and Bro. Al"Baby"Sharpton, who are doing more harm to excite, and bring on this War of the Epidermis due to that pigmentation of skin, and the guns these kids are using over and over again, killing one another, and not knowing their children, and their children and their children will not be born....here in the Land of The free..is a pure waste of Human life for future Americans to be born here in America.

The time has come, as this writer put words on paper to our Former President, and now to our Present President, Mr. Bill Clinton, to our Present Gov. Mario BABY Cuomo, CRIME; "Building Jails and the Death Penalty is not the Answer!" (All Media in N.Y. Rec'd a Copy)

There is only one Solution...to all this killing, and crim on our Streets in this Nation...Criminals actually lose their RIGHTS. They are no Longer Citizens, and they pay their own Way...Bona Fide Taxpayers no longer have to Pay...NAFTA deals with Foreign Trade..NAFTA Should

be used to make a Deal with Mexico, we have not a BASE for soldiers, but we rent some land, give each prisoner a blanket and we have only one PRISON, in the "Down Medico Way", the word would spread quickly, "COOL IT MAN, THEY WILL SHIP YOU OUT, TAKE YOUR RIGHTS AWAY, AND YOU MUST PAY YOUR OWN WAY....MAN, MAN, MAN...EVEN TO EAT ONE BREAKFAST YOU MUST PAY FOR IT...THE MONEY THEY WOULD HAVE PAID FOR US IN THE STATES, CAN NOW BE USED FOR FUTURE HEALTH PLAN, HOUSING, AND CREATING THOSE NEEDED JOBS, AND YOU KNOW WHAT, MAN , MAN...WE CAN GET A CHANCE TO OWN OUR OWN HOME.. MAN, MAN...

That is one gun , that this sailor ever took out of a holster, and never held a gun in my hand again, and at that time with the war, this sailor could have killend another humanbeing...

To be Cont.
 /K #
 /mo
 12/17/93

Victor Mino
Wading River, New York
November 15, 1993 12:15 A.
(Conn. Visit with Grandchild)

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

" Take Those Blinkers Off And See The Whole Periphery"

By Bob Menn(pen)

The Super Bowl (Football) is not even here, but Pro Basketball and Pro Hockey are pushed into our ears and eyes by the various media, and Baseball is all over with the World Series (and we don't even really know who won that one). Then we collegiate football and each school actually think they are NUMERO UNO.

Over 30,000 people who are Puerto Rican had a chance to vote in New York City, as to Statehood or Commonwealth. They want more free-bees, and still be a commonwealth. This writer would like to see the State of Israel become our 51st. State. After all they are our true friends, our ally, and the only true Democratic Nation, which in the middle eighties signed a Military Pact with the U.S. A., and never before in our Nations history, has such a pact been signed between two countures. One must consider the fact, that the United States does give that State Of Israel around 3.5 Billion dollars a year. Wouldn't it be nice, that they come over here, and then we blow up that area, and from that moment, let the Arabs settle their own differences..

The next step, by taking those Blinkers off, that we move the United Nations out of New York, and just like the Olympics, it is moved to another country every four years, and by doing that, these two-bit nations will get their piece of that pie, and eliminate all this Ethnic doings, in and around our fair city of New York. If this is to be accomplished, we must train our children from the third grade on to be in that Diplomat Corps, and truly know and understand each and every country in that United Nations, and not just selected by the political party

which is in that White House Oval Office on Penn. Street, in Washington, D.C. To do all the above, these children must know that countries culture, language, food habits, and any customs or traditions they live by and strive for...It will be just basic principles, in adjusting to these countries involved in Keeping Planet Earth in Orbit, for future generations to be born.

We have offered a certain section of Russia over 450 million dollars to not sell those missiles to other warfaring nations. They have refused, and are holding out to the best bargaining offer from other nations.

We have over four thousand Iraqs from the Desert Storm conflict, and each one of them have received over seven thousand each., and not one cent to our American Vietnam Veterans who wore that Uniform, and returned home to be treated like second class citizens, and were offered...ZILCH...Nil..... These same Vietnam Veterans, should be our new Task Force in the making, and assist in the policing in our Nations effort to eliminate crime. They have at least another twenty years of life, and we Veterans of World War 11, will be long gone. They will be in another Uniform, and only have a walkie Talkie and assist in our inner cities, our highways and by ways, and by doing that we can make that wrong a pure Right. It has been said, "From all the Bad, there has to be that one good" We can turn this country around and seek that Patriotism we had in the past.....

Our Oval office in Washington is pointing that finger on a former enemy, North Korea, and demanding they, the Koreans do not do nuclear testing What all Americans should know, is that we have over 20, thousand Americans in Uniform, in South Korea.

We actually know, that Japan, a former enemy, owns nearly 36% of America., but England, owns nearly 67%, and this writer feels, that country calls the "Shots" here in New York and elewhere, in this land called America.

Speaking of England, President Clinton in his campaign promises had vowed he would allow one man, a member of the IRA, and known to be a terrorist, to come to the United States, and talk to another Elite "Irish Mafia Leaders" but England will not let Ireland go, and will not allow this man to speak here this year.

When we think of the past, and those American Indians who were here first, and have land in the Black Hills of Dakota, and were offered again by the United State over 450 million for that land, but these same Indians told us loud and clear, "Keep Your Money, we want that land for ourselves!" Maybe it seems like only yesterday, these same Indians were forced to speak English, forced to dress like Americans, and forbidden to speak their native tongue. We have only to look for those Latinos, who actually forced America to assume those forced Bi*lingual programs in our American schools throughout this land. In California, there are about 22 Bilingual programs for all these marginal students.

In this present time here in the '90's, right in New York City, they are trying to eliminate that so-called High School Diploma, Regents Exams, and substituting field work, projects and the like, and producing even from the Fifties, Mediocrity at its best. Millions of dollars and Federal Funding for projects, programs, and any alternative to move these marginal students to come up to par, with other students has been nil. Why? Parents have yet to reinforce the efforts of the schools and the schools are asked to do too much... "Total Living!" while parents blame the schools, for they as parents have failed their own children. Put the Blame on Mame, and that buck still is passed back and forth.

Maybe, before Joe P. Kennedy, became the Ambassador to England he said it so best: "How can "X" number of people in America, feed the entire World.." It is all there, take those blinkers off and become involved in our Nations future, and forefathers dream of, "Pursuit of Excellence"

Mc # 11/15/93
mo

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 1, 1993

Mr. Victor Mino
Box 69R
Wading River, NY 11792

Dear Mr. Mino,

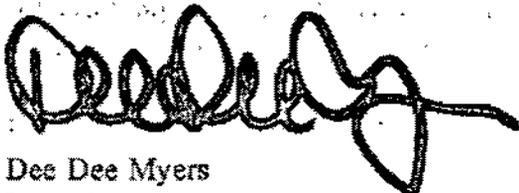
Thank you for expressing your concerns about the growing crime problem in our nation. The first duty of any government is to try to keep its citizens safe, and President Clinton is dedicated to this crucial challenge. He and his staff believes that we cannot -- and we must not -- permit another generation of Americans to grow up in fear.

President Clinton has introduced a comprehensive crime bill that will be a major beginning to a long-term strategy to protect our families against violent crime. Within this bill, President Clinton will support more funding for local law enforcement so that we can hire more police officers to patrol our neighborhoods and bolster effective communitive based policing techniques. President Clinton also supports the Brady Bill, which mandates a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases in order to allow police to determine if the potential purchaser is a criminal or is prohibited from buying a gun for any other reason. This proposal will help keep firearms off the streets and out of the hands of criminals, without restricting the rights of legitimate gun owners.

Although President Clinton supports long sentences and tough punishments for serious drug and violent offenders, he believes we must give first time, nonviolent offenders a second opportunity to become decent citizens. President Clinton also believes in imposing nontraditional punishments such as assignment to drug treatment or work programs, to community service, and to boot camps that can provide discipline, training, and treatment for many youthful nonviolent offenders to reform themselves. However, he also supports reform for dealing capital punishment crimes by limiting appeals and by providing proper representation.

Be assured that President Clinton is committed to passing a crime bill that will give Americans the freedom from fear that is essential to our nation's security and prosperity. Once again, thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,



Dee Dee Myers
Press Secretary

Letter

AL BAKER WELPME

October 26, 1993

Ms. Dee Dee Myers, Press Secretary,
The White House
Washington, D.C.

TOWERS BOMB

Minorities

Dear Ms. Myers,

Thank you so much for answering

my letter rec'd on 10/13.

My letters all are racist
Bigots

Yes, I too want Mr. Bill Clinton
to succeed, and hopes and dreams, that he too,
will go down as another, "The President As
World Leader" (Sidney Warren 1964).

As a seveb-year, and knowing where
I am going, want you, and the entire White House Administration, know this another
Lefthander, will read between those lines, work for our President for one (\$1.00)
dollar a year, and help eliminate those tirades with Bob Dole... (Reminds one of those
days when Ronald Reagan was elected, TIP O' Neil, said, "this now in the Big Leagues"
At that time, good old Tip, thought he was running the country. Like any child game,
Bob Dole is now playing "Tit For Tat"

With all the wonderful material
you presented in your letter, crime bill, and special programs for these offenders,
and recent Mayor of D.C. seeking National Guard Help, (glad Bill got out of that one),
the boot camp concept is fine, but it should be for a special group, that could help
out in D.C. and all areas of this land of ours. It is my version of a New Task Force
in the making.

(GFK Cry when that sound came) In this writer's lifetime,
we had a few shock-drama doings in America. The Bombing of Pearl Harbour, the Resignation
of President Nixon, and the last one (for the Task Force Above), The coming home of
Vietnam Veterans. They came home to zilch, and treated like second class citizens.

With Nixon, in the eyes of the
world, and these third world nations just laughed at us, and now Bill Clinton, has to
go over and above in solving the wrong our nation had to face with that resignation.
With the Vietnam Veterans, our American Youth had nothing left to look up to. As one
who served in WWI, I did look up to WWI, Veterans. We came home, the youth looked up
to us... Vietnam, says it all, we then lost Veterans there and American Youth like
many others of that era, and today as well have turned away from our American System.

I have tried to get these Vietnam
Veterans millions over the years, to shape them up, get them back into the main stream
for they have a good number of years left (20 would be a good guess), because we Vets
of WWI, will be long gone. They are and should be that new task force in the making,
wearing another uniform, no guns, and just a walkie talkie and assist in the policing.
Articles enclosed to help solve, Domestic and foreign doings.

Sincerely, AL BAKER WELPME

10/26/93
V/C #
WEL

Only In

Newsday

HOPES FOR THE BEST
NEW YORK POST
America's oldest continuously published daily newspaper



"A NOSE IS A NOSE"

- "Olympic Dream Team And Future Collegiate Sports"
- "War On Crime: Building Jails and Death Penalty is Not The Answer"
- "The Eyes Of The Nation Looks Towards The City Of New York"
- "A New Reverend In The Making"
- "Tower Bomb And Where The U.S. A. Must Go"
- "Minorities: Get Your Act Together and Be American"
- "Open Letter To Jesse Jackson"
- "A New Focus On Aids"
- "A Donkey Sense is Needed This Nativity Season"
- "The Right To Rights And Ther some"
- "Un-American Doings In L.A."

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN :

- "Crime Pays For More Jobs And Health Plans" By Bob Menn
- "New York: " Let Us All Be Racist And Bigots For one Day Only"
- "Exercise For What?"

"Yesterdays' News Today"

"How To Avoid Ptoais (Visceral) and Those Gravital Blahs"

"Want Good Complexion-Learn To Breathe"

"Do You Really Want To Play Tennis?"

"Wrapping with Civ Onim"

"Here a Deficit, There A Deficit"

"The He and She Of it All-Boys are born at a Disadvantage"

"What Makes You Happy?"

"You, Your Job and Your Family"

"Without Humor There is No Laughter and No Purpose in Being"

"Take Those Blinkers Off and See The Whole Periphery"

"My Words"

"U. S. Veterans Deserve More"

"Vietnam Veterans-The Country Owes You one"

"Basic Physio Cures All"

"The Cure For The Common Cold"



Vic Mino
Bob Menn-pen
1/9/90

M. Mino

Victor Mino
Wading River, New York
October 25, 1992

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

By Bob Menn(pen)

"Campaign '92: "Three Lefties Who have Rights Seek The Presidency"

Never before in our Nation's history, do we have three qualified candidates who are Lefthanded and have rights to seek that Oval office, in the White House. It is time, that these three SOUTHPAW MEN, get the feeling of being Leftout..

It was only a few years ago, this writer, and lefthander wrote an article re: Ollie North (another Lefty), concerning , HYPERACTIVITY AND THE LABELING OF LEFTHANDERS, in which a noted authority, who actually did the handwriting analysis of the Adolf Hitler papers, actually tried to decipher the handwriting of Mr. Ollie North. This God like figure mentioned that North was a egoraniac, blah, blah, and never once mentioned he was lefthanded. What a shame and what a waste.

There are others out there, who have applied their own research on Lefthanders. They mention, Lefties, are more suicidal, are poor readers, their brain is on a different hemisphere, are either great athletes or just plain "Clutz", and the rest of it.

We had so many great men who were Lefties, and one that comes to mind is the late Albert Einstein...and the list goes on. In reality, Lefties are more creative, have depth and perception , are able to read between the lines, are able to see things , that other eyes do not see, have a feeling and consideration of others, and with Vision are able to put it all together here on planet earth.

The true Lefthander is the only disadvantaged, and second class citizen, in this Right only land of ours. In a few days, only one LEFTY will enter that White House. The Right may vote, but a Left will be in.....

Mick
10/25/92

Victor Mino
Wading River, New York
December 14, 1973
Dr. Dumanski Office 11:A.M.

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

X'MASS: It's That Time Of The year"

By Bob Menn (pen)

In short time, that Beautiful time of the year has come upon us...All that hustle, buscol, shopping here, shopping there and driving around in those cars, like their the only ones on the road...and to others, who are old, tired, and just struggling by, making ends meet, looking back to that past, when those wonderful years of seeing their own children growing up, and those precious memories of raising a family, and low and behold, it is the nineties, children are grown, children of their own, but those memories are still there...So the shopping begins, the tears flow by, the heart swells, and darn it all, here again is those ChristmanBlues..Just seeing all those young families, laughing on the outside, while poor little Grandpa, Grandma or even Uncle Louis, get those blues ...because those happy years and times are no longer here...So the heart is crying on the inside, and seeing all those idiots all over the roads of our nation, having no concern for others, rush here and rush there are causing more accidents, and have no regard for others, for they must buy that one little "Shitty" gift for Aunt Bertha or young Tommy....and it doesn't mean one iota, that the main reason we celebrate this Navity, is because our ^{Herl Lord} ~~Dir~~ Jesus Christ was born on this X'Mass Eve....

The Stores are so commercial, so out of line even for a pair of shoe laces, people pay that huge sum...\$\$\$\$\$, thinking that that little gift will make that one person happy...It is all a shame and a waste, that we let ourselves become involved just because it is that time of the year....."

More Later...

Vic Mino

Bob Menn-writer

M. Mino

... (ASHIA) ... (OTHERS) ...



EVEN THE PRESIDENT LOVES A BARGAIN

De HoD mingles with all common people
President Clinton seems to have a lot from a
on his mind as he tries to make a purchase at the Metropolitan Museum of Art shop in Rockefeller Center yesterday. Clinton, in town for a fundraiser for Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan, took some time out to start his Christmas shopping. Find out what Clinton bought during his midtown spree on Page 2.

A REAL LEFTHANDER who is our Comdr. In Chief - BOOR UP !!
His Programs to move this NATION FORWARD and with vision for the future - Forget Party

March 9, 1994

The Honorable Donna Shalala
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

We share your goal of reforming the nation's welfare system to help parents gain a strong foothold in the job market. At the same time, however, we are deeply concerned that the Administration's welfare reform plan may jeopardize an equally important goal: promoting the full and healthy development of children. As the Administration's welfare reform plan takes shape, more attention is needed to the welfare of children.

As you know, children whose parents are receiving AFDC, like other low income children, are among those most at risk of developmental delays and diminished educational achievement. There is widespread agreement that, in order for them to thrive and succeed in school, they need the benefits of comprehensive, high quality early childhood programs. The Administration has recognized the value of a positive early childhood experience by committing to fully fund Head Start. It can do no less for AFDC children who do not have the opportunity to participate in Head Start but receive child care assistance through a welfare-related child care program. It is our challenge to provide the best possible child care for those who are still left behind.

Welfare reform will place an increased demand for child care on a system that even now cannot ensure adequate and affordable quality care. Over the next several years, millions of poor children could be at even greater risk, and the nation could face a new set of inequities:

- More children could be in unregulated care provided by untrained and unsupervised caregivers;
- More working poor parents could lose their child care subsidies when states shift Child Care and Development Block Grant funds to cover child care for AFDC families; and
- More parents could have their employment jeopardized because of unreliable child care.

continued ...

Adequate resources and an improved infrastructure must be in place in order to ensure that these children have access to quality child care. Any welfare reform child care initiative which supports children must include a number of key provisions:

- Consistent standards must be in place to ensure the healthy and safe development of children regardless of the funding source for their child care assistance.
- The state match requirement for AFDC child care must be lowered substantially. If this is not done, many states will continue to pay only for the poorest quality care and some may even shirk their responsibility to inform parents of their guarantee of child care assistance.
- The federal government must set minimum payment levels that are based on the market rate of child care. Some states use the child care disregard for child care for working parents receiving AFDC. It allows parents to disregard their child care costs from their income for the purposes of determining eligibility for AFDC. Since the disregard is capped at rates which are well below the market cost for child care and requires parents to pay for child care out-of-pocket, it does not allow parents to access quality care. The current child care disregard should be eliminated and replaced by contracts and vouchers for care or, at a minimum, the disregard should be required to reflect market rates. In addition, states should offer other payment options to AFDC parents who work. States should also be prohibited from imposing statewide limits on reimbursement rates which allow states to pay considerably less for child care than what it costs in a community. Finally, states should be allowed to establish rates above the 75th percentile of the market to expand families' child care choices.
- States should be required to provide information to AFDC families about their guarantee to child care assistance and appropriate counseling about the child care options in their community.
- In light of the pressures that increased demand for child care will place on an already stressed child care system, new funds should be available to help states improve the quality and build the supply of child care. Funds could be made available by making efforts to improve quality and build supply as allowable administrative costs for AFDC child care and the "At-Risk" Child Care Program and by establishing a set-aside for quality on the "At-Risk" Child Care Program.

continued ...

We are also concerned about the availability of child care for low-income working families who are struggling to remain independent of AFDC. In order to make work pay, it is essential that a welfare reform initiative provide child care assistance to these families as well as retain the guarantee of transitional child care assistance for families receiving or just moving off AFDC. If new child care assistance is to be offered to low-income working families through the "At-Risk" program, the state share must be minimal. Particularly given a growing need to provide child care to AFDC families, states will be hard pressed to match child care dollars targeted to the working poor.

As more parents participate in work programs and their children require child care, major new federal resources and leadership are essential. Without positive federal leadership, the children who are most in need of quality early childhood experiences will continue to receive the most minimal child care.

An Administration committed to the goal of ensuring that every child enters school ready to learn cannot be committed to a welfare program that ignores the issues that affect quality and places our poorest children in potentially harmful and unstimulating child care situations during their most important developmental years.

Sincerely yours,

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Psychiatric Services for Children
American Association of University Professors
American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Orthopsychiatric Association
American Planning Association
American Public Health Association
Bread for the World
California Child Care Resource and Referral Network
Camp Fire Boys and Girls
Carnegie Corporation of New York
The Center for Career Development in Early Care and Education/Wheelock College
Center for Women Policy Studies
Center on Effective Services for Children
Child Advocacy Project of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

continued ...

Child Care Action Campaign
Child Care, Inc.
Child Care Law Center
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Defense Fund
The Children's Foundation
Committee for Children
Community Nutrition Institute
Early Childhood Policy Research
Ecumenical Child Care Network
Family Focus
Family Service America
Far West Laboratory of Educational Research and Development
General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church
High/Scope Educational Research Foundation
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen
International Union, United Automobile Workers
Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs, ELCA
MADRE, INC.
NA'AMAT USA
The National Association for Regulatory Administration
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
National Association of Commissions for Women
National Association of State Boards of Education
National Black Child Development Institute
National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc.
National Center for Children in Poverty
National Center for the Early Childhood Work Force
National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse
National Community Action Foundation
National Conference of Black Mayors
National Council of Churches
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council on Family Relations
National Federation of Business and Professional Women

continued ...

National Network of Runaway and Youth Services
Parent Action
Quality 2000
School Age Child Care Project at the Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College
Service Employees International Union
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority
United Cerebral Palsy Associations
United Church of Christ-Coordinating Center for Women In Church and Society
USA Child Care
Virginia Association for Early Childhood Education
The Woman's Convention Auxiliary, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.
Women's Legal Defense Fund
YWCA of the U.S.A.
Zero to Three/National Center for Clinical Infant Programs

cc: Mary Jo Bane, Assistant Secretary for Children, Youth and Families, HHS
David Ellwood, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS
~~Bruce Reed~~, Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy,
The White House

Domestic Policy

[Handwritten scribbles]

THE PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20510

From: Kevin Lai
8 Park Plaza City Placa Box 246.
Boston Ma 02116.

Dear Mr. PRESIDENT :

In the Dec.30,1992. We gave the Family Child Care Center Plan. Now we would like to submit our perfect an idea for our plan to you.

Our an Idea : The people will see the creation of jobs. Increased tax revenue for goverment, the Welfare Reciplens who, have to volunteer get out the Welfare systems. The Unemployment rate will lowest.

We are business people who, have an idea that we trust will help our Country.

[Handwritten scribbles] Therefore, upon your review, we will ask your staff to see us.

Very truly yours

[Handwritten signature]

Kevin Lai



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

P.O. BOX 3091

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33431-0991

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

(407) 367-3210

FAX: (407) 367-2744

January 25, 1993

Dear Kevin and David:

Thanks for your letter of January 7 and the copy of your proposal. It is particularly timely because Bill Clinton was one of the leaders among the governors in Congressional passage of the Family Support Act of 1988 which now requires state governments to offer child care to welfare recipients who enroll in job training programs. Clinton is committed to expanding the program as President, and that will mean even greater opportunities for quality child care for the children of welfare recipients in job training.

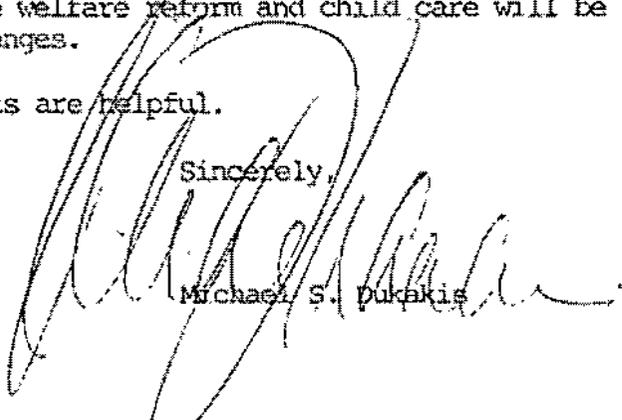
Your proposal raises at least two problems, however, which you ought to bear in mind.

1. I think it is a bad idea to make these child care programs exclusively for children on welfare. We were the first state in the country through the ET program to require child care as a part of our welfare-to-work effort, and it is very important that these kids have a chance to get their preschool education with a variety of youngsters, some of whom are neither poor nor on welfare. That is not difficult to do if one issues vouchers to the welfare families and helps them to find placements in existing or expanded day care centers which accept all children.

2. Universal child care, or at least universal child care for the children of welfare recipients in job training programs, won't be cheap. Right now, Clinton is facing horrendous deficit problems, and how he balances the need to cut the deficit with important priorities like welfare reform and child care will be one of his biggest challenges.

I hope these comments are helpful.

Sincerely,


Michael S. Dukakis

Boca Raton • Fort Lauderdale • Davie • Palm Beach Gardens
A Member of the State University System of Florida

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

Kevin Lai
David Sax
10 Kneeland Street
Boston, MA 02111
(617) 334-1039
617-482-2207 -

January 7, 1993

Former Governor Michael S. Dukakis
Perry Street
Brookline, MA 02146

Dear Former Governor Dukakis,

In the 1992 Presidential campaign, one of the most important issues that all candidates talked about was strong "family values." In addition, Mrs. Clinton has indicated a strong desire to have the White House be a "voice" for the American children. We have taken these ideas and we have gone on to the next step, which is to develop a plan that will help to promote strong family values for underprivileged children. Specifically, we have developed a plan that will: create jobs for Welfare recipients, tax revenue for the government, and most important, "family values" child care centers for preschool aged children.

In 1988, we gave the idea to your presidential campaign. At that time, you appeared to be interested in the concept and subsequently asked us to develop a plan. Now, with the new administration about to take over the White House, and the American people calling for change, we have documented our plan and we have sent it to President-elect Clinton in Washington.

In a brief overview, we hope to constitute a law where child care centers will be opened. These child care centers will be geared specifically to the children of Welfare recipients. As part of the plan, we hope to put preschool aged children into these centers, and employ their parents as well. In effect, we expect to create two million new jobs. Most of these jobs will be created for Welfare recipients who, except for current child care responsibilities, are able to work.

However, our plan doesn't end there. By implementing our proposal, we hope to stimulate growth in other industries as well. Also, our expectation is that our plan will be received in a popular way by the American people, because they will see that the government is taking action to help the underprivileged people in a positive way. The American people will see the creation of jobs, increased tax revenue for the government, and the beginnings to good education and good educational values for young children.

We have enclosed a copy of our plan and sincerely hope that you be able to review it, and possibly help us with our presentation to President-elect Clinton. We are business people, who have an idea that we trust will help our country. In advance, we would like to thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Kevin Lai

David Sax

December 16, 1993

Mr. Bruce Reed, Deputy Director of
Domestic Policy
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

It was such a relief to read that something is in the works concerning "deadhead dads". I have written to Governor Richards, Mayor Lanier, President Clinton and the Attorney General's office concerning this ever growing problem. I received a very comforting letter from each of them sharing my sentiments on the child support issue. Each leader seems to be waiting for the Government to enact more strength to the enforcement process. Well, thank God!

I am not your usual "welfare basher", I do believe in welfare for the needy. Needy being defined as a specific amount of help, for a specific amount of time, not a lifetime. However, most people that are in this cycle are not trying to get out. I do not want to confuse the poor parents that are trying, or the many who are looking for jobs, there are some, but very few.

The Attorney General needs more case workers to find these "deadbeat parents" and garnish wages, attack retirement benefits, personal property, etc. to see that these children are cared for. Enclosed is a copy of a letter I wrote to all the major leaders listed in the first paragraph. Your suggestion of "Mandatory Work Programs" is a fantastic idea. If you need an average citizen to supply information, or any type of assistance to help in any way to get this process enacted please, please let me know. I also believe that there are thousands of other women that would be more than happy to assist you and your task force. I can only speak from one aspect of the problem for there has never been a paternity issue with my case. I was legally married to my ex-husband and WE had three children. Now the authorities cannot find him to make him pay his court appointed child support. We need help, I am not on welfare, I have applied for food stamps but none of this would be necessary if he would just pay his support. **I hope if I am approved for the stamps, that the authorities will make him reimburse the state. THE STATE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR FEEDING HIS CHILDREN!!!!**

Thanks for the sound off!



Rose M. Nichols

October 28, 1993

Mayor Bob Lanier
City of Houston
901 Bagby
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mayor Lanier:

I am writing to whomever will listen. I am a single working mother of three, among millions of other women that are waiting for some assistance from the Child Support Enforcement Agency. I have written to Governor Ann Richards, President Bill Clinton, and numerous other agencies within the system. Unfortunately, I cannot afford to hire an attorney and the Gulf Coast Legal Foundation does not accept child support enforcement cases.

THIS IS MY STORY:

Each day you hear tales from women talking about "dead beat dads". What a title, it almost sounds cute, cute if you don't need food for your children, cute if you don't need clothing for your children, cute if you are praying just to keep a roof over their heads. You see I am not shopping at Macy's or Foley's and just complaining because I can't go there as often as I would like. I am overjoyed if my children just have food, forget the four basic food groups.

Many nights I lie in bed and pray that God will provide me with enough time to pay a portion of my utilities just to keep them on. I know there are agencies such as AFDC, Income Assistance, and Food Stamps, but as I mentioned before I am a **working** mother. These agencies are not for the working class, the idea is to stay home and collect whatever is free then you are able to be classified as a **welfare mom**. Which seems to be the only way you can get any assistance. There is something wrong, terribly wrong with this picture.

Don't get the wrong impression I am not one of those people that blame others for my troubles, **all I am asking for is that the "powers that be" enforce the laws that are already in place**. I have always been a working individual sometimes two jobs, I have never been on AFDC, Food Stamps, nor have I ever received any unemployment benefits. I know you are probably saying well there are procedures to be followed, well I have gone to the Attorney Generals Office filed all the necessary papers and now I am listed as "**in the system**". However in the meantime, my house payment is two months in arrears, my car payment is due, my light bill is near cut off, again, I am being sued by the Homeowners Association, getting constant letters from an agency representing Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and all this while my case is "**in the system**".

Just for the record, I am not one of those women that just happen to live with a man and just happen to have three children. I was married for sixteen years. My ex-husband was a switchman for Southern Pacific Railroad. We lived a middle class lifestyle, however like many, many families we are victims to the drug of choice. After constant attempts to save another human being from destruction there came a time when enough was enough and I decided to salvage what we had left and attempt to give my kids their lives back, somewhat.

For the past year or so my ex-husband has disappeared in HOUSTON, neighbors inform his family that they see him from time to time, however the authorities cannot locate him, which is very odd since we are in the age of very sophisticated computers, and database files with everything in them you could imagine. It should not be impossible to locate "dead beat dads".

Alright I have complained enough, now I would like to make a suggestion for a solution. For the "dads" that have held a job long enough to be vested in a corporation why not deduct delinquent support payments from their retirement benefits. I am not talking about dads or moms that are two weeks, two months or even six months delinquent, I am referring to the dads that are years in arrears. I know this suggestion will get complaints from various organizations, however, I would like to know, why is it okay for other taxpayers to take care of my ex-husbands children. He should be responsible for them, therefore money should come from him, he is not ill, he is a healthy, able-bodied, over 200 lb. male, notice I did not say man!

To give you some idea about how the system fails most women and children, my ex-husband decided to take voluntary severance from his job at Southern Pacific Railroad receiving around \$42,000.00. His wages were already being garnished through Harris County Child Support Office, however, they did not take any money out for child support nor did he voluntarily pay any - WHY -?? To some it might seem that I am asking for something impossible, because the agencies stated that they have over 18,000 cases on file with only a few (6) agents to handle the caseload, again, WHY? We spend more time on animal rights issues than we do with America's children "in the system".

Another suggestion, if for some reason tapping into retirement benefits is considered UNCONSTITUTIONAL, why not seize anything of value (usually cars) and auction it off the way they do drug dealers property and send it to the Attorney General's Child Support Fund. These suggestions only apply to dads that have worked, or that have something of value, the rest are truly bums, and their children should be on AFDC because they have nothing to contribute to their support. This small process of elimination would help the WELFARE SYSTEM considerably. It would allow the government to finally tap into the street drug dealer, you know the one's that are in the 19-30 year old bracket, that drive customized BMW's and Mercedes Benz, they all have children, they all have children "in the system" "the welfare system".

I know this letter will never get to President Clinton, nor Governor Richards or any of the other powers that be, and if it does it will be viewed as just one among millions. But I have written this letter as therapy for me and as a voice for all other women across America that for some reason are invisible if you are a single, working, law abiding, tax paying, citizen trying to work for the AMERICAN DREAM.

Sincerely,



Ms. Rose M. Nichols
3415 Creek Grove Drive
Houston, Texas 77066
(713) 524-3767

YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS, INC.

P.O. Box 950 • 1500 North Second Street
Second Floor
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108
(717) 232-7580

December 7, 1993

Mr. Bruce Reed
Senior Advisor
Domestic Affairs
White House
1800 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Mr. Reed:

I read a recent item from the Wall Street Journal (enclosed) and wanted to express my hope that the tax-exempt, not-for-profit sector of the job market not be excluded from the employment plans for welfare recipients.

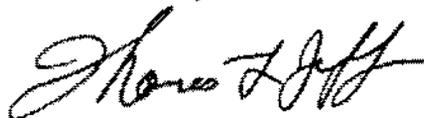
I have included an article by a Hunter College researcher which indicates the willingness and in many cases the effectiveness of the not-for-profit sector to recruit, employ and develop low income and welfare recipients.

My own company which operates in eight states uses as a staff recruitment axiom that the deliverer of services (advocates) should have the same zip code as the recipient of services. I have included a general description of the programs we operate.

I suspect that if community based human service employers were eligible for subsidies that a large number of welfare recipients could be employed and developed to provide significant and meaningful service in their communities.

The "Social Networks" described by Kasinitz as essential to employment intertwine with the public and private human service sector, to exclude this resource would be a large waste.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Jeffers
President

TKZ.
 DAVE BEPACZ
 I KNOW
 WAS SLOWLY
 D

The Real Jobs Problem

By PHILIP KASINITZ

Economist John Kain first suggested in 1968 that poor blacks lacked access to jobs, especially manufacturing jobs, in part because those jobs were moving to the suburbs, far from the inner-city areas where most poor blacks lived. The idea has been elaborated since then and accepted as the conventional wisdom. Its policy form is the initiative known as "enterprise zones" or, in the Clinton version, "empowerment zones." The idea sounds like simple common sense: Use tax breaks and other incentives to encourage businesses to locate in poor areas, bringing job opportunities to local residents.

However, a study of employment patterns in an impoverished Brooklyn neighborhood—conducted by Jan Rosenberg, a sociologist at Long Island University, and me—suggests that enterprise zones will not be enough. The primary reason for ghetto unemployment is not the lack of nearby jobs but the absence of social networks that provide entry into the job market.

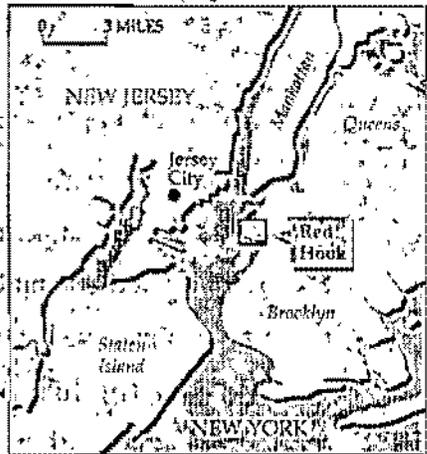
Red Hook, Brooklyn, is a neighborhood of about 12,500 residents, located on a peninsula directly across New York Harbor from the Statue of Liberty. Today, the name is used to describe the area cut off from the rest of the borough by a confluence of highways and the toll plaza at the entrance to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel. It is a mixed-use area: The Red Hook Houses, one of the city's oldest and largest public housing projects, sit close to a variety of small industrial firms.

Industry and Poverty

In 1989, 46.3% of Red Hook residents lived below the poverty level. Three out of four local residents live in the Red Hook Houses. The rest live in "the back," a cluster of private housing and small tenements occupied by the remnant of the old working-class white population, as well as by blacks and Puerto Ricans. The 1990 census found that 48% of area households received public assistance and 21.5% of Red Hook workers were unemployed.

Red Hook's mix of industry and impoverishment seems to confound the logic behind enterprise zones. Numerous manufacturing plants and jobs exist in a neighborhood with high levels of poverty, unemployment and crime.

How can this be explained? In order to find out more about why Red Hook residents don't get Red Hook jobs, we con-



ducted a survey of local employers. Our interviews revealed two general reasons why they tend not to hire locals. There is substantial "positive discrimination" in favor of nonresidents, as well as considerable "negative discrimination" against residents. Though racial and ethnic stereotypes play some part in these patterns, they are far too complex to be explained exclusively in such terms.

The primary quality employers look for in an unskilled position is reliability, and most report that the best way to find reliable employees is by personal referral. "We hire almost entirely by word of

clinging centers. I have a couple of guys who brought in almost everybody, all the unskilled anyway. They bring in their friend, their cousin, whatever. I have had maybe five guys come in off the street, and only two or three have worked out even for a short time.

Hiring "off the street" is rare even in the lowest-paying jobs. A commercial baker noted: "We'll give anyone who walks in off the street an application. The likelihood of their being hired is slim, because we don't know them. . . . We don't tend to just take people off the street, because I've had a lot of bad experiences. That's true of all ethnic groups, including white Americans.

The reliance on referrals often amounts to a reliance on ethnic networks.

The primary reason for ghetto unemployment is not the lack of nearby jobs but the absence of social networks that provide entry into the job market.

This was no surprise in small retail businesses, which are usually family-run. But larger businesses also often hire through ethnic networks, though employers are sometimes only peripherally aware of how the process works. One large contractor reported that more than half his workers are immigrants from Spain who commute into Red Hook each day from Jersey City and Newark. "They all know each other over there, I guess, and when they hear we have an opening, somebody just shows up."

Networks serve at least three functions in the labor market. First, they provide specific information about the availability of job openings and how to pursue them. Second, they provide role models of successful employees. Third, and perhaps most important, they can provide direct sponsorship. A current employee may directly vouch for a prospective worker; if the new employee works out, the credibility of the sponsor is enhanced.

Social networks, not residential geography, tend to determine employment decisions. Social networks may be centered on a particular neighborhood, but they are often not, particularly in the sort of high-crime ghettos that discourage the formation of strong local ties. In areas like Red Hook, residents tend not to be embedded in social networks that connect them to private-sector jobs, even jobs in their own neighborhood.

Our study also found considerable discrimination against local residents. Although most employers were eager to make clear that they do not practice racial discrimination, few showed any hesitation about describing "locality" discrimination against "ghetto" people. In some cases employers preferred not to hire people who lived too close to work for fear that the complicated lives of the poor would spill into the workplace.

More often, however, the focus of locality discrimination was the fear of crime. An employer with a large facility on the waterfront pointed with pride to his all-black team of security guards, West Indian immigrants who commute from central Brooklyn and Queens, but scoffed at the idea of hiring local blacks: "What, the bums hanging around outside? You want me to hire the guys who are trying to rob me?"

A recycler responded in this way to our attempt at subtly raising the question of hiring locals: "Look, I know what you're driving at. Let me save you some time. Do I hire people from the projects? I have had

years. I gave one or two a shot. And they didn't last a day. Mostly they gave me the impression that they were just looking around so they could come back for their 'real job' [burglary], at night."

Concern about crime in the area is by no means unreasonable. Most of the Red Hook employers have experienced pilferage, and many have had employees mugged.

Negative feelings about the area are often transferred to the residents: "We see junkies, we see prostitutes standing outside, and I wouldn't hire someone who lived in that. The projects have a very strong stigma attached. It's not just a matter of race, I don't discriminate. I'd be very upset if one of my people did. But naturally you distrust somebody who comes from a place like that. It's unfortunate, because there are probably lots of good people who live there."

There was one significant exception to the pattern of employers favoring non-local workers. Four of the five not-for-profit and public-sector employers we surveyed did hire large numbers of people from the project. In contrast to the private firms, all of these employers perceived having employees who were "part of the community" as a significant benefit. In part this is because neighborhood residents are their clients, so good community relations are important to their "business." Yet it also seems likely that local residents, particularly those in the project, do better in public-sector employment because that is where their connections—their social networks—are. Unfortunately, public-sector opportunities for poorly educated applicants are severely limited. Even the least-skilled positions in this sector (e.g., day-care workers) require complicated licensing procedures.

During the time we were conducting our survey, another exception to the pattern of nonlocal hiring occurred. The South Brooklyn Local Development Corp. began a referral service aimed at placing residents in local jobs. Construction contractors who used the service later reported that the workers had "basically worked out." They did not, however, start recruiting in the Red Hook Houses.

Proxy Networks

Rather, they credited the favorable experience, probably with some justification, to the screening done by the LDC. The employers were willing to "take a chance" on people they would not normally have hired because they trusted the judgment of the LDC director, whom they knew—another example of the value of networks.

Our study of Red Hook demonstrates that the presence of low-skill jobs in poor neighborhoods is no guarantee that the poor will have access to those jobs. In a loose labor market it is easier and more efficient for employers to find new employees through informal referral systems, particularly when local residents are perceived as unreliable and prone to crime.

How, then, can we connect ghetto residents with private-sector jobs? One promising approach—exemplified by the limited success of the South Brooklyn LDC and more systematically by America Works, the private-sector employment agency for welfare recipients—is to create proxy networks that can inform, socialize and vouch for employees in much the way social and ethnic networks do now. Such efforts could go a long way toward giving poor people access to jobs—even if they have to take the subway to get them.

Mr. Kasinitz teaches sociology at College in New York. This article is from the full issue of the Manhattan Journal.

Clinton Wants to Allow U.S. Subsidies For Firms That Hire Welfare Recipients

By PAULETTE THOMAS

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration, as part of its plan to overhaul the nation's welfare system, wants to allow government subsidies for employers who hire welfare recipients and to put others into community service work.

President Clinton listed welfare reform among his campaign promises, and has outlined a broad plan to require parents to work after a two-year stint on the welfare rolls. The president's advisers are considering many options for ways to create those jobs, they say. An administration welfare task force is to present options to the president next month, and plans to have legislation on Capitol Hill early next year.

Job subsidies, which were mentioned in a New York Times article yesterday, may be one relatively easy first step. States are already permitted to subsidize employers who hire welfare recipients, but one strict stipulation applies: Subsidized jobs must be newly created.

New legislation would be required to allow subsidies for employers who put welfare recipients into existing jobs. Last year's urban aid legislation would have expanded the use of government subsidies in just that way, but President Bush vetoed the bill for other reasons.

The notion is to expose welfare parents to the world of work, and give them some experience to build upon. "It's just one piece" of a broader plan, said Bruce Reed, a senior domestic affairs adviser to President Clinton. "What's important to us is to put a strong emphasis on connecting welfare recipients to the private sector."

But it's highly unlikely, in such a tepid

economy, that job subsidies alone would suffice to put welfare recipients to work after two years. There are now about 1.5 million people who have children over the age of six and have been on welfare for more than two years, according to congressional researchers. "There will be some community service jobs that need to be created, there's no question," said Mr. Reed. Those sorts of jobs have been tried with varying success in the past by many states, but it has been difficult to create real work because public employee unions have fought off attempts to allow welfare recipients to do many government jobs.

Republicans on Capitol Hill have also introduced their own plan to change welfare, which is similar in many ways. It calls for required work or training for welfare recipients, a requirement to establish paternity for welfare children, and to have substance abusers on welfare undergo rehabilitation programs and submit to random drug tests.

The administration has already demonstrated its intent to reform welfare in some ways, mainly by giving states more leeway to experiment with their welfare loads. Last month, in the most telling example, the administration approved a Wisconsin plan to conduct the most stringent experiment yet — limiting welfare payments to two years, with no guarantee of a job afterward. The experiment is limited to two counties. The Department of Health and Human Services must approve individual state's welfare reform plans.

The Welfare Niche

In Darwin's terms an adaptive niche is a space carved out of the biosphere by a reproducing organism. Life in the crudest form, i.e. bacteria, reproduce and respire through the oxidation of iron. Life in the higher form requires caviar, diamonds and champagne. Welfare recipients fall towards the middle of this spectrum.

The starving Somali kills for a bowl of gruel.. Michigan welfare clients receive an average of \$800 for a woman and child. (Husband only gets about \$40 more in food stamps.) If you add \$200 for taxes from wages, this divides out to \$6.00 per hour at 170 hours per month. This is \$1.65 more per hour than MacDonalds pays. Yet welfare qualifies clients for Medicaid, free legal aid, WIC, Heat Aid and Free Cheese.

Welfare clients also have jobs under the table; pay no taxes and get an unearned tax credit refund in cash or a Homestead cash refund on rent paid by the State. Typical jobs: Baby-sitting, Child-care, Housecleaning, Lawn Mowing, Carpentry-Painter, Auto Repair-Body Work, Scavenging Metal-Bricks, Masseur, Escort, Topless Dancer, Theft, Drug Dealing, Telephone-Mail Cons or Case Worker.

If you qualify for WIC and lineup for the free cheese, butter, rice, powdered milk, eggs, etc. and your child gets two meals a day in the Head Start program and show up at local churches and soup kitchens, you can trade your food stamps for enough dope to become a small level dealer. If you stop your vendor payments all at once you get \$600 to shoot up your arm - then you can get free legal aid to keep your landlord from evicting you.

Utilities are no problem. Don't ever pay your water bill, that will be added to the property taxes with interest and penalties for your landlord. If your case worker can't get the water turned back on, do it yourself. There is no penalty because water use is a lien against the property deed. If your gas or electricity is off, the Salvation Army will pay up to \$500 of your bills and you don't even have to sing any hymns. Put phone in kid's name. Call lots of 900 numbers. Isn't this more fun than work?

Bored? Go back to school. Local school districts will pay \$6,000 for Cosmetology school. (Make tips and charge friends for haircuts and perms at home.) State will also provide Day Care. Who knows, with makeup and new do, you might meet a guy with money! Job Club is a real good place to make profitable dope connections. Also they have phones to make calls for "jobs".

Need more dough? Have more kids. Hang around bars, plenty of men will be glad to buy drinks and impregnate you. State will foot all hospital and doctor bills. Hospital stays are great vacations for stubbed toes and other feigned or imagined ills. Free food, drugs, maid service, tea and sympathy at \$1,000 per day; and why should you care?

Will the State buy you a house? Sure, if you can find someone to give you a no money down land contract on a condemned rental property. The State will vendor your contract payment, property taxes and insurance. By the time child is eighteen the house will be paid for (if it is still standing). The State will also pay for insulation, windows, doors, siding, roofing, paint and appliances. In summary, why work?

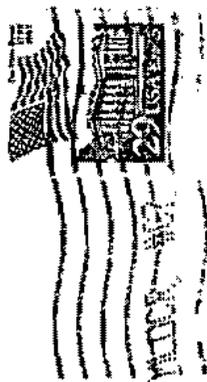
Darwinism states that evolutionary success depends upon the number of fertile offspring that are raised to reproductive maturity. Obviously welfare clients have exploited their niche to the maximum. They have compressed a generation to fifteen years and so are producing three generations for every two generations for working couples. In the 21st century welfare will become the dominant adaptive strategy in the United States.

Dave Lehman

Mr. Lehman can be contacted at ph. 517 / 724-5213

DL/jm

DOUGLAS VAN ZANTE
C/O RAINIER MANOR
1415 W. 9TH STREET #48
LOS ANGELES, CA 90015-1209



MR. BRUCE REED
DEP. ASST TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR DOMESTIC POLICY
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 15th

Bruce Rued

Your quote of
the Pres. June 15th
G-Span

"The poor have
had all the political
posturing they can
stand"

Well we tax payers
have had about all
we can stand!

And you can take that
to the bank, B. Morgan

Mrs. Barbara Morgan
4411 Ring Neck Rd, Orlando, FL 32808



The White House
1600 Pennsylvania
Ave
Washington, D.C.
Attn: Bruce Reed, Dom Pal adu!



COMPREHENSIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER

"COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE"

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

*DACIA -
For your information
No reply necessary.
BT*

June 29, 1994

Mr. Bruce Reed
Senior Policy Advisor
216 OEOB
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Welfare Reform via Job Creation

Dear Mr. Reed:

The purpose of this letter is to provide information which we believe is vital to the Clinton administration's success in accomplishing your objectives in welfare reform.

By combining public dollars available for economic development (more specifically micro-enterprise development) with public and private human service dollars, we have developed a program model which provides technical assistance and financial support to new business start-ups to create new employers and new jobs.

I am transmitting flow charts and diagrams to illustrate this model. We would welcome the opportunity to explain in detail. Also attached is a letter verifying the successful implementation of the first small business incubator in a sheltered workshop from the U.S. Department of Education. I was personally responsible for this project in Binghamton, New York, which was funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The key to welfare reform is new job creation, with full utilization of income transfer dollars in local communities. I will be in Washington, D.C., July 21 through 23, should you have an interest. Please contact me at (315) 255-2285, ext. 220 at your convenience.

We wish you and the Clinton Administration the very best.

Sincerely,

Pamela R. Wilson
Public Relations/Development
Specialist



LATINO ISSUES FORUM

A Public Policy and Advocacy Institute

[Handwritten signature]
No reply

July 1, 1994

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Bruce N. Reed
 Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
 Washington, DC 20500

RE: WELFARE REFORM PROPOSALS

Dear Mr. Reed:

Latino Issues Forum, a public policy and advocacy institute, wishes to express its concern over the proposed reductions in welfare eligibility for legal immigrants, refugees and other non-citizens. Cutting benefits and limiting welfare recipients will not eliminate the needs of these groups. Financing federal welfare reform by shifting costs to state and local governments will have detrimental effects on states heavily impacted by immigration, such as California.

Proposals to finance welfare by cutting benefits to legal immigrants, if adopted, will undermine this nation's commitment to family reunification. It will also unjustifiably create discriminatory distinctions between lawful residents and native born citizens.

Moreover, the United States will not succeed in improving the health of its residents if both health and welfare proposals seek to exclude large sections of the population. Both reforms must work to protect the well-being of all residents by improving the quality and efficiency of federal policies.

The Latino community has a great deal at stake in both health care and welfare reform. Protecting the health of the Latinos is vital to our own and the nation's success. If you have any questions or need clarification, please feel free to contact me directly at 415-552-3152. The Latino community is counting on your support.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature of Guillermo Rodriguez, Jr.]

Guillermo Rodriguez, Jr.
 Director of Policy and Research

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 22, 1994

Ms. Eleanor Coulson
251 Laurel Grove Avenue
Kentfield, California 94904

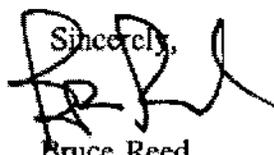
Dear Ms. Coulson:

Thank you for your letter concerning welfare reform. I appreciate your taking the time to share your idea with me.

I am enclosing a copy of the summary of the Work and Responsibility Act of 1994. I hope this will address some of your concerns about welfare reform.

I am also sharing your letter with staff of the Working Group on Welfare Reform, Family Support, and Independence at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Again, thanks for taking the time to write me.

Sincerely,


Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy

Your idea about marriage licenses is
a good one. I'll pursue it. Thanks!

Harder Line Urged On Deadbeat Dads

Panel wants paternity, work requirements

Los Angeles Times

Washington

Opening a major new front in attempts to discourage out-of-wedlock births and increase collection of child support, the administration's welfare reform task force will urge that states be required to identify the fathers of virtually all children born outside of marriage.

The group, on the verge of completing recommendations to present to Clinton, has decided to make stringent new federal standards on establishing paternity a centerpiece of the task force's proposals for carry out Clinton's campaign promise to crack down on "deadbeat dads" who fail to pay child support.

It also symbolizes the task force's call for a fundamental shift in welfare laws to require that fathers of children on public relief face the same obligations as mothers. As part of that shift, the task force calls for "significant experimentation" with "mandatory work programs" for men who do not pay child support — a recommendation that mirrors its proposal that mothers be required to work after two years on the rolls.

Like many outside welfare experts, the task force maintains that increasing child support collection is crucial to reducing the number of children in poverty. While absent parents have the potential to pay more than \$47 billion annually in child support, only \$13 billion is now being paid, according to an analysis cited in the report. Only about a quarter of women eligible for child support receive the full amount they are owed, Census figures show.

"If we cannot solve the problem of child support, we cannot possibly adequately provide for our children," the report says.

Failure to establish paternity has long been considered the Achilles heel of government efforts to collect more child support from absent fathers — particular-

ly those of children on welfare. In 1990, the latest year for which figures are available, paternity was established for just 34 percent of the nearly 1.2 million children born out of wedlock.

Despite intensified state and federal focus on the problem, that represents only a modest increase from 1978, when paternity was established for 20 percent of the children born out of wedlock.

Under current law, states are required to establish paternity only for children of mothers who apply for welfare or request state assistance in collecting overdue child support. Typically, those applications are not made for months or even years after the child is born — a delay that greatly complicates the task of establishing paternity.

Under the task force's proposal, states would be required instead to attempt to establish paternity for all children born out of wedlock, preferably immediately after birth while the mothers are still in the hospital.

Some steps in that direction already have been taken. In the budget law passed last summer, the administration pushed through a provision requiring states to establish voluntary programs in hospitals in which unmarried mothers would be asked to name the fathers of their children and the fathers would be asked to acknowledge their paternity.

As part of the plan, the task force proposes setting "performance standards" that would require states to establish paternity in an increasing percentage of cases each year and provide both financial incentives and penalties to spur compliance.

Paternity establishment "needs to be a nonnegotiable expectation," says Bruce Reed, deputy director of domestic policy in the White House and co-chairman of the task force.

Panel Issues Its Final Report On Poor State Of U.S. Baby Care

Los Angeles Times

Washington

The National Commission to Prevent Infant Mortality, which has run out of financing, issued a final report yesterday calling on the nation to remedy an infant death rate that gives the United States one of the the worst records of any developed country.

Florida Governor Lawton Chiles, the commission's chairman, recommended that more work be done in prenatal care for inner-city families.

The commission said the mor-

year of life was 7.3 out of 1,000 in 1991, the last year reported, and the rate for blacks was 17.8 out of 1,000. With an overall infant death rate of 8.9 out of 1,000, the United States ranks 21st among developed countries, worse than Japan, Hong Kong and most of Europe, and about equal to Cuba.

The commission, whose financing will expire December 31, worked with private groups to provide counseling to poor young pregnant women, to direct them to prenatal clinics and to show them how

Commuter Massacre, Our Warning

By WILLIAM J. BENNETT

The Long Island Railroad train massacre has temporarily shaken Americans. That it took a shower of bullets in a suburban railway car to outrage us, though, is a measure of our complacency about crime and violence in our society. For too long we have allowed the deeper problems that underlie violence and other social ills to pass without comment.

America is not in danger of becoming a Third World country; we are too rich, too proud and too strong to allow that to happen. Many people live well, decently, even honorably. There are places where virtue is taught and learned. But there is a lot less of this than there ought to be.

Murderers like Colin Ferguson are becoming more common. Earlier this year I released, through the auspices of the Heritage Foundation, the Index of Leading Cultural Indicators. It showed that since 1960, there has been a 560% increase in violent crime. There has also been more than a 400% increase in illegitimate births, a quadrupling in divorces, a tripling in the percentage of children living in single-parent homes, more than a 200% increase in the teenage suicide rate, and a drop of 75 points in the average SAT scores of high school students. Today 30% of all births and 68% of black births are illegitimate.

The U.S. ranks near the top in the industrialized world in its rates of abortion, divorce and unwed births. We lead the industrialized world in murder, rape and violent crime. And in elementary and secondary education, we are at or near the bottom in achievement scores.

Civilization Gone Rotten

But there are other signs of decay, ones that do not so easily lend themselves to quantitative analyses. There is a coarseness, a callousness, a cynicism, a banality and a vulgarity to our time. There are too many signs of a civilization gone rotten. And the worst of it has to do with our children: We live in a culture that at times seems almost dedicated to the corruption of the young, to ensuring the loss of their innocence before their time.

A large part of the problem is that such criminals as Colin Ferguson no longer face the sure punishment they once did. Last month a violent criminal was awarded \$4.3 million in New York. Why? He had mugged and almost killed a 72-year-old man, then fled the scene. A police officer shot the criminal in the back; the courts deemed that wrong and made the man millions. Public reaction? Virtual silence.

Other court cases have proved similarly disheartening. During last year's Los Angeles riots, Damian Williams and Henry Watson were filmed pulling an innocent man out of a truck, crushing his skull with a brick and doing a victory dance over his fallen body. Their lawyers then built a successful legal defense on the proposition that people cannot be held accountable for getting caught up in mob violence. When the trial was over and these men were found not guilty on most counts, the sound you heard throughout the land was relief. We are "defining deviancy down," in Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan's phrase. And in the process we are losing a once-reliable sense of civic and moral outrage.

Pop culture plays a role here. Through it we have seen the terrible debasement of

music. It is a steep moral slide from Bach, or even Buddy Holly, to Guns n' Roses and 2 Live Crew. This month an indicted murder suspect, Snoop Doggy Dog, saw his rap album, "Doggystyle," debut at number one. On the daytime television talk shows, indecent exposure is celebrated as a virtue. In just the past few weeks, these shows dealt with cross-dressing couples; a three-way love affair; a man whose chief aim in life is to sleep with women and fool them into thinking that he is using a condom during sex; women who can't say no to cheating; prostitutes who love their jobs; a former drug dealer; and an interview with a young girl caught in the middle of a bitter custody battle.

In my view the real crisis of our time is spiritual. Specifically, our problem is what the ancients called *acedia*, or sloth. *Acedia* reveals itself as an undue concern for external affairs and worldly things. It is spiritual torpor; an absence of zeal for divine things. And it brings with it, according to the ancients, "a sadness, a sorrow of the world." The old theologians taught that *acedia* arises from a heart steeped in the

We are "defining deviancy down," in Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan's phrase. And in the process we are losing a once-reliable sense of civic and moral outrage.

worldly and carnal, and from a low esteem of divine things. It eventually leads to a hatred of the good altogether. And with hatred comes more rejection, ill-temper, sadness and sorrow.

When the late novelist Walker Percy was asked what concerned him most about the future of America, he answered: "Probably the fear of seeing America, with all its great strength and beauty and freedom . . . gradually subside into decay through default and be defeated, not by the Communist movement . . . but from within from weariness, boredom, cynicism, greed and in the end helplessness before its great problems." Only when we turn our affections and desires toward the right things—toward enduring, noble, spiritual things—will things get better.

Material gains will not be enough here. If we achieve full employment and greater economic growth—if we have cities of gold and alabaster—but our children have not learned how to walk in goodness, justice and mercy, then the American experiment, no matter how glided, will have failed.

Even now, there is a sense of this. Amid the current prosperity and security almost 70% of the public are saying we are off-track.

When millions of people stop believing in God, or when their belief is so attenuated as to be belief in name only, enormous public consequences follow. And when this is accompanied by an aversion to spiritual language by the political and intellectual class, the public consequences are even greater. Dostoyevsky reminded us in "Brothers Karamazov" that "if God

does not exist, everything is permissible." We are now seeing "everything."

What can be done? First, the short answers: Do not surrender; get mad—and get in the fight. Now, let me offer a few, somewhat longer, prescriptions.

• Our first task is to recognize that it is foolish, and futile, to rely primarily on politics to solve moral, cultural and spiritual afflictions.

• We must have public policies that again make the connection between our deepest beliefs and our legislative agenda. Do we Americans, for example, believe that man is a spiritual being with a potential for individual nobility and moral responsibility? Or do we believe that his fate is to be a soulless cog in the machine of state?

We say we desire from our children more civility and responsibility, but in many of our schools we steadfastly refuse to teach right and wrong. We say we want law and order in the streets; but we allow violent criminals to return to those same streets.

We say we want to stop illegitimacy, but we continue to subsidize the behavior that virtually guarantees high rates of illegitimacy. We say we want to discourage teenage sexual activity, but educators are more eager to dispense condoms than moral guidance. We say we want more families to stay together, but we make divorces easier to obtain.

We say we want to achieve a color-blind society, but we continue to count by race. We say we want to encourage virtue and honor among the young, but it has become a mark of sophistication to shun the language of morality.

• We desperately need to recover a sense of the fundamental purpose of education, which is to provide for the intellectual and moral education of the young. "If you ask what is the good of education," Plato said, "the answer is easy—that education makes good men, and that good men act nobly." Jefferson believed that education should aim at improving one's "morals" and "faculties." Until a quarter-century or so ago, this consensus was so deep as to go virtually unchallenged. Having departed from this time-honored belief, we are now reaping the whirlwind.

• As individuals and as a society, we need to return religion to its proper place. Religion, after all, provides us with moral bearings.

Hatred of Religion

In America today, the only respectable form of bigotry is bigotry directed against religious people. This antipathy toward religion cannot be explained by the moral failures and financial excesses of a few leaders or charlatans, or by the censoriousness of some of their followers. No, the reason for hatred of religion is because it forces modern man to confront matters he would prefer to ignore.

These are matters we can no longer ignore. It would be impossible for any society to entirely guard against madmen. But the commuter murders and incidents like them touch our core. And it is to our core that we must attend.

Mr. Bennett, a fellow at the Heritage Foundation, is author of "The Book of Virtues" (Simon & Schuster).

Lift the Roadblocks to Intrastate Trucking

By CASSANDRA CHRONES MOORE

If the Clinton administration really is serious about spurring economic growth, it should throw its support behind the bill introduced by Rep. Bill Emerson (R., Mo.) to demolish the remaining barriers in the trucking industry. In 1980, when Congress deregulated interstate trucking, the economy benefited tremendously. The Depart-

ment oversees intrastate highway freight movements, faced an indirect threat. Should the contagion of deregulation spread, they might lose their jobs. To protect them, Naruc intensified its lobbying efforts.

Clearly narrow self-interest is at work here. But of course the Teamsters, Naruc and the intrastate firms clustering in their shadow prefer more respectable argu-

Taken as a whole the safety measures help to explain the declining trend of truck accidents per ton-mile over the past 12 years. There has been no upsurge of trucking accidents in the eight deregulated states.

What are the options for change? Battling legislators state by state will be long and costly. Maintaining the status quo