

Fathers —

Institute for
Responsible

Fatherhood

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 9, 1998**From The Institute For Responsible Fatherhood****For More Information Contact:****And Family Revitalization****Bill Holmes (202)293-4420****“Eye” Opening Look at Fatherhood Model**

Washington, DC— The issue of “Fatherlessness” and how best to solve it will come under the watchful eye of the evening news feature “Eye On America” shown daily as part of the *CBS Evening News with Dan Rather*. Prompted by proposed legislation by Rep. E. Clay Shaw (R-Fl), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Resources of the Committee on Ways and Means, reporter Wyatt Andrews takes an in-depth look at House Bill, H.R.3314, and what effect the bill will have on the problem of children growing up in America without their fathers. Also, Andrews will preview the *Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization (IRFFR)* as the model of the type of the programs the legislation seeks to fund.

Mr. Andrews, with camera and crew spent several days at

the Institute, focusing their attention on the services and methodology of the sixteen year old fatherhood program. The feature will air tomorrow, **June 9, at 7:00pm e.s.t.** and will give viewers a "day in the life" look at this unique method of service delivery developed by Institute founder and CEO, Charles A. Ballard.

Highlights of the piece include an unrehearsed encounter with an absentee father who is approached by Institute outreach specialists as they canvassed the community. His moving response to their offer to help establish a loving, nurturing relationship with his son captures on camera the essence and the importance of the Institute's work.

Andrews talked frankly with CEO Ballard, who shared his views on H. R. 3314, also known as the "Fatherhood Counts" Bill. Ballard also shared his feelings on federal government involvement in the fatherhood movement, and the allowance of faith-based programs under this bill. "This bill not only helps fathers, but it will help to save families, which is the basic structure of our society", the CEO said.

The Institute was recently awarded a \$4.5 million competitive grant under the Labor department's "**Welfare-To-Work**" program. The Institute was selected in the first round out of a pool of over 600 candidates.

Founded in 1982 the (IRFFR) is a non-profit organization based on a modeling and grassroots intervention approach to support fathers in voluntarily establishing paternity and strengthening fatherhood skills, while improving work ethics and employment performance to support their children.