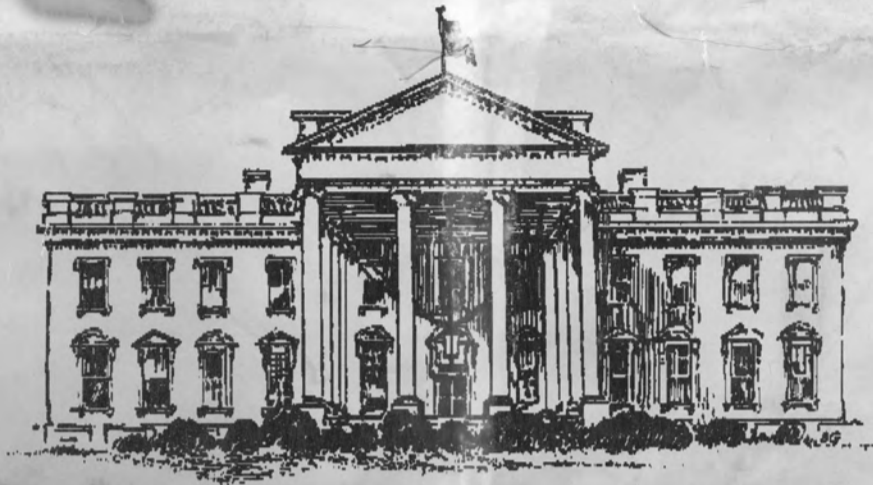


To: Dr. Edna Louise Saffy

From: DIGIACOBBE_M

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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Date: 8-9-95
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**President Clinton Outlines Agenda for Families,
Warns of Threats to America's Children
Wednesday, August 9, 1995**

Today, President Clinton will reiterate his commitment to strengthen American families in an address to the Progressive National Baptist Convention. In his remarks, the President will speak about the need to protect young Americans from those things that threaten them:

- **Violence**
- **Illegal Drugs**
- **Teen Pregnancy**
- **Teen Smoking**

Agenda To Strengthen our Families. The President will outline his agenda for America's families:

- **Give Families the Freedom to Take Care of Each Other** -- a commitment to Medicare and Family and Medical Leave Act;
- **Health Care Reform.** Move forward on insurance reform so that people don't lose their health insurance if they change jobs or if someone is sick in the family;
- **Tougher Child Support Enforcement** to make sure parents take responsibility for their children;
- **Better Wages.** Raise the minimum wage to reward people who are working hard and playing by the rules;
- **Tax Cut for Families.** Give middle class families a tax cut that helps them raise their kids and send them off to college;
- **Strengthen Environmental Standards.** Stop Congress from dismantling environmental and public health protections;
- **Commitment to Education.** Invest in education and training, the keys to our country's future. Stop the proposal in Congress to raise the cost of student loans;

A Challenge to the Nation. The President will challenge the nation to come together to solve the problems that threaten the health of young Americans and rob them of a chance to succeed.

- **Violence.** Too many of America's children face violence at school, home and in their neighborhoods. The President is doing everything he can to stop the violence and deglorify it:
 - ban on assault weapons;
 - passed the Brady Bill;
 - new strategies to fight gangs;

- 100,000 more police on the streets;
- V-chip so parents can decide what their kids watch on t.v.

But government alone can only do so much to solve this problem. We must join together to fight violence.

- **Teen Pregnancy.** We must halt the epidemic of teen pregnancies and births where there is no marriage. Every year, one million girls between the ages of 15 and 19 become pregnant. Children born to teenagers are more likely to be sick and more likely to live in poverty. The President is doing everything he can to stop this epidemic:
 - proposed welfare reform that fosters responsibility;
 - teen-age mothers have to live at home and stay in school;
 - demand that young fathers support their children;

But government alone can only do so much to solve this problem. That is why the President has called on leaders in the media, education, religion, and medicine to marshal their forces to build a strategy to halt teen pregnancy.

- **Drugs.** The scourge of drugs is perhaps the most serious threat to our nation's youth. The use of marijuana, LSD and inhalants are all up. We have to make our children know that drug abuse leads only to sickness and despair. President Clinton is making sure that government does its part:
 - largest drug control budget in history;
 - working to cut off drugs at the source;
 - breaking the cycle of drugs and crime by providing treatment to hard-core drug users;
 - punish people who break the law;
 - most importantly, educate young people about the dangers and penalties of drug use.

We cannot turn back in the war on drugs. We must fight those in Congress who want to cut 23 million students out of Safe and Drug Free Schools and shut down the Office of National Drug Control Policy. We don't need to sacrifice the health and safety of our children to balance the budget.

- **Smoking.** Teenage smoking is one of the single greatest threats to the health of our children. And it is rising:

- Since 1991, even as adult smoking was dropping, the percentage of teen smokers has risen steadily and rapidly;
- A 30% increase in the number of 8th graders who smoke;
- A 22% increase in the number of 10th grades who smoke;
- A drop in the number the number of teenagers who think smoking is dangerous.

We have a responsibility to help parents keep cigarettes and chewing tobacco away from their kids. It is far too easy for children to buy and use tobacco products. President Clinton is committed to working to stop this.