



**THE WHITE HOUSE**  
**WASHINGTON**

May 17, 2004

I send greetings to those observing National Missing Children's Day.

Protecting children from harm and exploitation is one of our society's greatest responsibilities. National Missing Children's Day raises awareness of the tragedy of child abduction. It also provides an opportunity to honor law enforcement officials and others involved in searching for missing children and stopping the dangerous offenders who prey on them.

We must do everything we can to protect children from these criminals. My Administration is committed to continuing to expand, enhance, and coordinate the successful AMBER Alert system across America. I applaud all those who dedicate their lives to the important work of protecting children. Your efforts give hope and comfort to many and reflect the compassionate spirit that makes our country strong.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barack", written in a cursive style.