

NLWJC - Kagan

DPC - Box 050 - Folder-005

Race-Race Initiative Policy: Crime

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	Phone No. (Partial) (1 page)	08/17/1998	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Elena Kagan
OA/Box Number: 14369

FOLDER TITLE:

Race-Race Initiative Policy: Crime

2009-1006-F

bm3

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
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- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

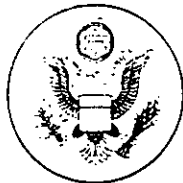
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Kagan

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ONE AMERICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The President's Initiative on Race

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

8-17-98

The New Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503
202/395-1010

August 12, 1998

*This is a
rough but urgent
letter that must be put
in front of you*

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing on behalf of your Advisory Board on Race to report on our May 19 meeting, which was held at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and which focused on issues of race in the administration of justice. The primary purpose of the meeting was to examine how race may affect people's experiences with and perceptions of our criminal justice system. The meeting included keynote remarks from Attorney General Janet Reno, who spoke about the importance of building trust and confidence in our criminal justice system across racial lines. The Attorney General discussed several federal law enforcement efforts that are working to improve relations and reduce crime in communities of color. The meeting also included a factual overview by Christopher Stone, Director of the Vera Institute of Justice in New York, who presented available data on racial disparities in crime and the administration of justice. A copy of Mr. Stone's presentation is attached for your information.

The main part of the meeting consisted of a roundtable discussion with criminal justice experts, moderated by Professor Charles Ogletree of Harvard Law School. The following scholars and practitioners participated in the discussion:

- William Bratton, Former Commissioner, New York City Police Department;
- Zachary W. Carter, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York;
- Maria Jimenez, Director, Immigration Law Enforcement Monitoring Project, American Friends Service Committee;
- Randall Kennedy, Professor, Harvard Law School;
- Deborah Ramirez, Professor, Northeastern University School of Law;
- Charles Ramsey, Chief of Police, District of Columbia Police Department;
- Kim Taylor-Thompson, Professor, New York University School of Law;
- William Wilbanks, Professor, Florida International University;
- Michael Yamamoto, Partner, Horikawa, Ono & Yamamoto; and
- Robert Yazzie, Chief Justice, The Navajo Nation.

*Copied
Winston
Bowles
Echaveste*



● Leanne A. Shimabukuro

08/24/98 08:17:38 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
cc: Jose Cerda III/OPD/EOP
Subject: Friday meeting recap

Jose' tells me that he spoke to Chris Edley, and Chris had asked him to meet with Scott. We sat down with Scott on Friday for a couple of hours to discuss his initial outline/thinking paper on the key substantive issues and goals of the workplan on criminal justice. We spent the bulk of our time talking about some of the "challenges" as identified in Scott's outline (i.e., disparities in criminal offending, racial profiling, sentencing). However, we were in agreement that the starting point and the focus of our undertaking should be on the disparities in criminal victimization, and the public safety needs of minority communities. Scott agreed to revise his outline/thinking paper to reflect our suggestions.

Next steps: Scott promised to get us a revised outline sometime this week, which I will fax to Jose. I am working to set up a meeting for next week with DPC, PIR, OMB, DOJ, and Treasury to begin a broader discussion of the issues raised. I believe we will follow up with a meeting the week after that as well.



ONE AMERICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The President's Initiative on Race

*The New Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20503
202/395-1010*

August 12, 1998

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
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- William Wilbanks, Professor, Florida International University;
- Michael Yamamoto, Partner, Horikawa, Ono & Yamamoto; and
- Robert Yazzie, Chief Justice, The Navajo Nation.

The roundtable discussion focused on several key issues that contribute to differing perceptions of the criminal justice system, including the use of racial profiling in law enforcement and the existence of racial disparities in incarceration rates and sentencing. We also discussed strategies, such as community policing, that can strengthen relations between minority communities and law enforcement and reduce crime.

Here is a summary of what we learned from our May 19 meeting: Racial divides exist in both the realities and perceptions of crime and the administration of justice. Data show that communities of color absorb a disproportionate amount of the social, economic, and personal costs of crime, especially violent crime. For example, according to Mr. Stone's presentation, the homicide rate for non-Hispanic, white males is approximately 5 per 100,000, while the homicide rates for males of color are approximately 8 per 100,000 for Asian Americans, 18 for Native Americans, 25 for Hispanics, and 58 for blacks. Studies also show that persons of color have less confidence in the fairness of the criminal justice system than do whites. Participants in our May 19 meeting discussed several problem areas that likely contribute to mistrust in our criminal justice system among persons of color: (1) negative interactions between persons of color and law enforcement personnel, which may range from unjustified police stops to improper use of force; (2) racial disparities in the administration of justice, including disparities in incarceration rates, sentencing, and imposition of the death penalty; and (3) the lack of diversity in law enforcement, including police, prosecutors, and judges.

Building One America requires building a criminal justice system that serves and treats Americans of all races fully and fairly. While we clearly were not able to cover all issues, based on our review of the literature and on our discussions with experts and practitioners thus far, we recommend that you consider taking action in the following areas to address issues of race in crime and the administration of justice:

- Expand Data Collection and Analysis: As in other subject areas, one point that clearly emerged from our readings and discussions was the lack of data that exist for some racial groups with regard to issues of criminal justice. For several reasons, much of the data that exist are restricted to blacks and whites, with little data available on issues affecting Hispanics, Asian Americans, or Native Americans. In addition, there are some issues for which data are limited with regard to all racial groups, such as rates of contact with law enforcement personnel and the nature of those contacts. Finally, there is a distinct lack of research on issues of race in the juvenile justice system, where what little research exists suggests that racial disparities are even greater than in the adult system. We recommend that the Administration develop appropriate mechanisms to collect and analyze more complete criminal justice data for all racial and ethnic groups, so that issues of race can be better assessed and addressed.
- Consider Restricting the Use of Racial Profiling: Racial profiling refers to the use of race by law enforcement personnel as one factor in identifying criminal suspects. For

example, at our May 19 meeting, participants discussed incidents in which evidence shows that race was used as one factor in deciding which cars to search for drugs in traffic stops and which persons to question about their immigration status. This practice has been challenged in court, but it is often upheld as a valid exercise of law enforcement discretion. Some in law enforcement may see racial profiling as a necessary practice given limited law enforcement resources and racial disparities in criminal behavior. But racial profiling also imposes costs on innocent minorities, perpetuates and reinforces racial stereotypes, creates situations that can lead to physical confrontations, and contributes to tensions between communities of color and the criminal justice system.

We understand that the Department of Justice is already examining the issue of racial profiling. We strongly endorse this effort and recommend that you and the Attorney General consider restricting and developing alternatives to racial profiling in federal law enforcement and that you encourage state and local governments to do the same. Such actions would be a powerful statement that the federal government does not sanction the disparate application of policing powers by race.

- Eliminate Racial Stereotypes and Diversify Law Enforcement: Research and experiences discussed at our May 19 meeting show that racial stereotypes exist in law enforcement and affect interactions between persons of color and police, prosecutors, judges, juries, and others. Participants in our meeting had differing opinions about the extent to which such stereotypes are a rational outgrowth of racial disparities in criminal behavior. However, all participants, regardless of political affiliation or philosophical views, agreed that actions based on racial stereotypes are unjustified and that law enforcement personnel must receive training to avoid acting based on racial stereotypes. The Administration should develop and support efforts to combat stereotypes through intense training and education for law enforcement personnel, including police and prosecutors, on how to avoid acting based on stereotypes, how to understand confrontational situations from diverse perspectives, and how to interact effectively with persons of all races in tense situations. Such training should include the enhancement of cultural, language, and mediation skills. Furthermore, it is crucial to promote diversity throughout the criminal justice system by increasing the number of persons of color serving as police, prosecutors, judges and more. Increased diversity can enhance the cultural competency of law enforcement, improve communication with language-minority citizens, and build confidence and trust in the criminal justice system within communities of color.
- Reduce or Eliminate Drug Sentencing Disparities: The clearest example of a racial disparity in the criminal justice system is the disparity in sentencing for possession of crack versus powder cocaine. Under current federal law, possession of five grams of crack cocaine triggers a five-year mandatory minimum sentence compared to possession of 500 grams of powder cocaine. This 100:1 ratio has been widely criticized as unjustified and unfair because of the resulting racial disparity in drug sentencing -- black

defendants constitute approximately 86% of those convicted in federal court for crack cocaine offenses (compared with 35% of those convicted of powder cocaine offenses). Furthermore, these drug sentencing disparities likely contribute to the high incarceration rates for young, black males, which in turn have dramatic social and economic effects on black communities. At present, approximately one-third of young, black males are under the supervision of the criminal justice system (on probation, in prison, or on parole), and, according to Mr. Stone, the chance that a young, black male will go to prison during his lifetime is nearly 30%.

While there may be some justification for the differential treatment of crack versus powder cocaine offenders, all participants in our May 19 meeting agreed that the present 100:1 sentencing disparity is morally and intellectually indefensible and undermines confidence in the fairness of our criminal justice system. The Administration has recommended a reduction in the disparity to 10:1 by raising the amount of crack cocaine that triggers a mandatory minimum and lowering the amount of powder cocaine. We strongly support this action at a minimum. In addition, we urge the Administration to develop and expand alternative sentencing strategies for non-violent, first-time offenders, such as drug courts, which offer such offenders the "carrot" of drug treatment and other services with the "stick" of immediate and certain punishment if drug use continues.

- Promote Comprehensive Efforts to Keep Young People Out of the Criminal Justice System: Many communities of color face conditions of concentrated disadvantage, including high poverty, low performing schools, high unemployment, low-quality health care, and absence of stable families. These conditions are linked to high rates of crime, including juvenile crime. Reducing crime and keeping young people in these communities out of the criminal justice system likely requires a comprehensive approach to law enforcement -- one that involves all sectors of the communities and includes education, economic, and criminal justice programs. As the Attorney General said in her May 19 address:

We have got to develop a coherent pattern of building blocks that we put in place and keep in place for our young who are at risk. Strong parenting, focus on domestic violence, child support enforcement, proper preventative medical care including prenatal care, proper education in the formative years, afternoon and evening programs to provide our children who are unsupervised [with] proper, constructive, mentored supervision, truancy prevention programs that make a difference, conflict resolution programs, school-to-work programs. If we put those building blocks in place, we are going to see a turnaround in crime in this country on a long-range basis. We are going to see a reduction in disparity in the criminal justice system, but we have got to start early and build carefully as we go along.

These “building blocks” to which the Attorney General refers could provide the foundation for a comprehensive effort to break the cycle of concentrated disadvantage and thereby reduce youth crime in high-poverty, high-minority communities. We support several Administration efforts to prevent and address youth crime in communities of color, including the enhancement of after school programs and support for community partnerships. The Administration should support further coordinated efforts to address concentrated disadvantage and keep young people out of the criminal justice system.

- Continue to Enhance Community Policing and Related Strategies: Community policing strategies have the potential to improve relations between law enforcement and communities of color, enhance confidence in law enforcement, and reduce crime. The federal government should continue to support community policing efforts in communities of color. We strongly support your recent COPS-office initiative to fund approximately 700 new community policing officers in 18 cities with the greatest need, many of which are communities of color. In addition, we support your new community prosecutors initiative, which would provide grants to strengthen relations between prosecutors and the communities they serve. More generally, one of the most important roles that the federal government can play in local law enforcement is to evaluate, highlight, and support programs that show evidence of success. While preliminary findings are positive, research on the effectiveness of community policing and related programs is limited. We urge the Administration to continue to evaluate such programs and to support efforts that show evidence of success. Such analyses should examine what works from the perspectives of both law enforcement and communities of color.
- Support Initiatives that Improve Access to Courts: Limited English Proficient populations face unique obstacles in accessing our criminal justice system, including our courts. The Administration should support initiatives to increase understanding of the way our criminal justice system operates and improve access to our courts. At a minimum, all judicial systems should provide the ability for Limited English Proficient users to access both the criminal and civil courts in their communities. Strategies that may be implemented include providing grants to community based organizations for outreach and public education, providing training for law enforcement personnel, including judges, about the changing demographics in the communities they serve, and making available court-certified interpreters.
- Support American Indian Law Enforcement: American Indian tribes manage their own criminal justice systems, which are very different from federal and state systems. These tribal systems operate with limited resources to deal with different and increasing crime problems. There seems to be strong consensus that further resources are needed to adequately support criminal justice in Indian country. As Attorney General Reno made clear at our May 19 meeting, “[Tribal law enforcement] has been one of the most neglected areas of the justice system.” We are pleased that your FY 1999 budget includes

President Clinton

Page 6

more than \$180 million to strengthen law enforcement in Indian country. The federal government should continue to take action to strengthen tribal law enforcement and justice systems in a manner that respects tribal sovereignty and preserves tribal justice practices.

Finally, while we did not discuss the issue of hate crimes at our May 19 meeting because we had previously discussed the issue in conjunction with the White House Hate Crimes Conference several months ago, we want to reiterate our support for your efforts to strengthen hate crimes laws and enforcement. Overt acts of racial hatred still plague us. To build One America, we as a nation must take proactive and aggressive steps to prevent and punish such acts.

Once again, thank you for your consideration. I would, of course, be pleased to discuss any of the above thoughts with you. My best wishes.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Hope Franklin".

John Hope Franklin
Chair

Attachment

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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001. email	Phone No. (Partial) (1 page)	08/17/1998	P6/b(6)

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Domestic Policy Council
Elena Kagan
OA/Box Number: 14369

FOLDER TITLE:

Race-Race Initiative Policy: Crime

2009-1006-F
bm3

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"Christopher Edley, Jr." <edley @ law.harvard.edu>
08/17/98 11:07:36 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Scott R. Palmer/PIR/EOP, Jose Cerda III/OPD/EOP
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP, Maria Echaveste/WHO/EOP
Subject: Re: POTUS Book on Race: Criminal Justice Working Group

Jose:

In the attachment drafted by Scott to get the ball rolling, what you see is that the "bold ideas" section IV needs to be filled in. My goal is to have some paper ready for POTUS and FLOTUS shortly after they return from Russia. So, extracting ideas and then vetting/clearing such a memo puts a lot of time pressure on us (or, at least, me). Of the key areas in the workplan chapter, only Criminal Justice has yet to start moving. So, I hope you and Elena can focus on this soon.

Thanks.

At 10:25 AM 8/17/1998 -0400, Scott_R_Palmer@pir.eop.gov wrote:
> Chris Edley suggested that I follow up with you to find out where we are in
> terms of organizing a Criminal Justice Working Group to begin brainstorming
> and vetting issues for the President's race book. Mike Cohen is leading a
> similar group in education that is moving forward. Chris is eager for us
> to get started in criminal justice with a meeting this week. Attached is a
> very rough Thinking Paper that outlines the four principle questions that
> the Working Group should likely try to address. Let me know if you have
> any questions or concerns, or if I can be of assistance to you in pulling
> together a meeting. I can be reached at x51047. If you would like to
> speak with Chris, feel free to page him at [P6(b)(6)] Thanks.
>
> (See attached file: CRIMJUST.WPD)
>
> Attachment Converted: "c:\Documents\Attachments\CRIMJUST.WPD"
>

[001]

- Crimjust.wpd

~~W. Hope Franklin~~

DRAFT (as of May 8, 1998 (10:13am))

**The President's Initiative on Race
Advisory Board Meeting**

**George Washington University
Dorothy Betts Marvin Theater
Washington, D.C.**

**May 19, 1998
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

"Race, Crime and the Administration of Justice"

- | | | |
|------|---|--|
| I. | Opening/Review of Agenda
10:00 am - 10:05 am | Dr. John Hope Franklin |
| II. | Welcoming Remarks
10:05 am - 10:08 am | Dr. Stephen Trachtenberg,
President of GW [invited] |
| III. | Introductory Remarks
10:08 am - 10:23 am | Attorney General Janet Reno
[confirmed] |
| III. | Factual Overview
10:23 am - 10:38 am | [See attached potential speaker list] |
| IV. | Roundtable Discussion
10:38 am - 12:40 pm | |
| | Moderator: Professor Charles Ogletree [confirmed] | |
| | Panelists: | |
| | Professor Randall Kennedy, Harvard University [confirmed] | |
| | [See attached potential participants list] | |
| V. | Questions and Answers
12:40 pm - 12:58 pm | Members of the Audience |
| VI. | Closing Remarks/Adjournment
12:58 pm - 1:00 pm | Dr. John Hope Franklin |

Possible Participants

Advisory Board Meeting on Race, Crime, and the Administration of Justice (May 1998): Realities, Perceptions, and Strategies

I. Opening Address: *U. S. Attorney General Janet Reno*¹

II. Factual Overview:

Possible Presenters:

Christopher Stone, President and Director, Vera Institute of Justice (founding director of the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services and the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem. Member of the Board of Directors of the New York State's Capital Defender Office. Has authored a number of articles most recently "Crime and Justice in Black America.")

Alfred Blumstein, Professor, Carnegie Mellon University (served on President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice in 1966-67, researched many aspects of the criminal justice system particularly prison populations and sentencing -- suggested by Kennedy)

→ **Jeremy Travis**, Director, Department of Justice National Institute of Justice

III. Roundtable Discussion

A. Moderator: *Professor Charles Ogletree, Harvard Law School (renowned expert on this issue.)*

B. Panelists

Possible Panelists	
1.	<i>Randall Kennedy, Professor, Harvard Law School (well-known on these issues, particularly for his views on racial profiling)</i>
2.	John DiIulio, Professor, Princeton University -- Woodrow Wilson School, has written a number of books on government institutions and suggestions for reform (suggested by Ogletree, Kennedy, Sonia)
3.	Professor Jeffrey Rosen, George Washington University, prolific writer on race and crime, often in publications such as The New Republic. (Suggested by Sonia)

¹ Italics indicate that participant is confirmed.

4. Professor Joan Petersilia, U.C. Irvine, written with James Q. Wilson, focused primarily on policing, sentencing, career criminality, corrections, and racial discrimination.
5. Roy Innis, Executive Director, Congress for Racial Equality (suggested by Mike W.)
6. Professor Cynthia Lee, University of San Diego Law School, written on race and crime, 619-260-2320 (suggested by Sonia)
7. Professor Sandra Guerra, University of Houston, 713-743-2134 (suggested by Maria E.)
8. Professor Miguel Mendez, Stanford, expert on criminal justice, 650-723-0613 (suggested by Maria E.)
9. Alfredo Garcia, author, wrote a book on the 6th Amend., 305-623-2372 (suggested by Maria E.)
10. Beverly Harvard, Atlanta Chief of Police, COP since 1994 and patrol office since 1973, involved in community policing, first African American woman to run a major police department, named "CBS Morning Show woman of the Year." (Suggested by Ogletree)
11. Fred Lau, San Francisco Chief of Police, first Asian Pacific American COP in a major city, worked on the S.F. police force since 1971.
12. William Bratton, former NYC Chief of Police (suggested by Richard)
13. Reuben Greenberg, Charleston Chief of Police (suggested by Jose)
14. Angela Jordan Davis, Professor, American University School of Law, specializes in race and crime, former Director of the Public Defender Service for D.C. (Suggested by Ogletree, Sonia)
15. Kim Taylor-Thompson, Professor, NYU School of Law, specializing in race and crime, formerly the Director of the Public Defender Service for D.C. (Suggested by Ogletree, Sonia)
16. Michael Judge, Public Defender, Los Angeles, CA (suggested by Angela Oh)
17. Professor Deborah Martinez, Northeastern, former U.S. Attorney (suggested by Ogletree)
18. Marc Mauer, Assistant Director, Sentencing Project, Washington, DC, promotes defense-based alternative sentencing programs and services nationwide, authored reports such as "Young Black Men and the Criminal Justice System." (Suggested by Ogletree, Rose Ochi)
19. Maria Jimenez, Director, Immigration Law Enforcement Monitoring Project, Houston, TX, project of the American Friends Service Committee, established to engage local communities along the U.S.-Mexico border to strengthen the capacity of border communities to participate in decisions relating to border control policies and practices and seek changes in key policies that foster abuse, human suffering and a militarized border (suggested by NCLR)
20. Vibiana Andrade, National Immigration Law Center, Los Angeles, CA formerly with MALDEF (suggested by NCLR, Angela Oh)
21. Mary Kenney or Cynthia Cano, Lawyer's Committee on Civil Rights Under Law, San Antonio, TX (suggested by NCLR)
22. Michael Yamamoto, Board of California Attorneys for Criminal Justice (suggested by Angela Oh)

23. Michael Yamaguchi, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California
24. Eric Holder? Rose Ochi? Bill Lann Lee? [DOJ official on strategies.]
25. Jimmy Gurule, former Bush appointee at DOJ, 219-631-5917 (suggested by Maria E.)
26. Robert Yazzie, Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation, Window Rock, AZ
27. Cheryl Dmeert Fairbanks, (Tlingit/Timpshian) attorney and tribal Court Justice, Sante Fe, NM
28. James Zogby, President, Arab American Insitute (suggested by Richard)
29. Journalist? John Quinones, 20/20 (suggested by Ogletree)

Proposal

Advisory Board Meeting on Race, Crime, and the Administration of Justice (May 1998): Realities, Perceptions, and Strategies

- I. **Purpose:** The May Advisory Board meeting provides an opportunity to explore several questions related to race, crime, and the administration of justice: What are the facts? How do different perceptions of crime and the administration of justice affect efforts to build One America? What strategies can help promote a criminal justice system that serves and treats Americans of all races fully and equally? The meeting should include an overview of the facts and a moderated discussion in the "PBS roundtable" format with experts and leaders from various sectors.

- II. **Substance of the Meeting:**¹
 - A. **Realities of Race, Crime, and the Administration of Justice:** Data on race, crime, and the administration of justice are complex and are limited for some racial groups. Nonetheless, the May Advisory Board meeting provides an important opportunity to educate people about the available facts: Who is committing crime? Who are the victims of crime? Who is being arrested, charged, convicted, incarcerated? The facts will show a number of disparities in crime and the administration of justice that are caused by complex social, economic, and legal factors.

 - B. **Perceptions of Race, Crime, and the Administration of Justice:** The facts concerning race, crime, and the administration of justice fuel different perceptions of the criminal justice system and place substantial pressure on our efforts to build One America. Data show that some minority communities often absorb a disproportionate amount of the social, economic, and personal costs of crime. These communities want strong law enforcement. However, there often exist different perceptions between persons of color and larger society about the fairness of the criminal justice system, which hinder law enforcement. Two factors influencing these different perceptions of the criminal justice system are negative interactions between persons of color and law enforcement personnel and racial disparities in the administration of justice. The May Advisory Board meeting provides an opportunity to explore the realities and perceptions of race, crime, and the administration of justice by examining more discrete topics under this heading, including the following:

?

¹ In order to facilitate discussion, we will provide the Advisory Board with background materials on race, crime, and the administration of justice.



ONE AMERICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The President's Initiative on Race

*The New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503
202/395-1010*

May 8, 1998

Dear Friend:

I am writing to invite you to our May Advisory Board meeting which will be held in Washington, D.C. on May 19, 1998 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The topic for the meeting will be "Race and Crime and the Administration of Justice."

The May Advisory Board meeting provides an opportunity for the President's Advisory Board on Race to study several questions in this area: What are the facts concerning race, crime, and the administration of justice? How do different perceptions of crime and the administration of justice affect efforts to build One America? What strategies can help promote a criminal justice system that serves and treats Americans of all races fully and equally? Specifically, we will examine issues such as racial profiling, sentencing disparities, and community policing.

The meeting will be held at George Washington University, the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theater in the Marvin Center at 800 21st Street, N.W. It will begin with opening remarks by Attorney General Janet Reno followed by an overview of the facts surrounding this topic and a two-hour roundtable discussion. The roundtable discussion will be moderated by Professor Charles Ogletree, renowned expert on these issues at Harvard University, and will include panelists from across the country.

I hope that you or a representative from your organization will be able to join us for what will be an informative and lively discussion on race, crime and the administration of justice. If you are able to attend, please fax back the enclosed RSVP form. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Danielle Glosser, Outreach Associate, at 202-395-1010.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Winston
Executive Director

Proposed Race Initiatives: Crime

Community Policing

One of the cornerstones of the 1994 Crime Bill -- and the President's signature anti-crime program -- is the COPS initiative. The two main goals of the COPS initiative are to reduce and prevent crime by (1) dramatically increasing police presence (100,000 more police on the street), and (2) expanding the community policing philosophy to law enforcement agencies throughout the country. While the Administration has already done much to highlight the hiring of more "cops on the beat," the Race Initiative provides us with an opportunity to emphasize community policing.

Community policing is best defined by its two main components -- community engagement and problem solving. While many police departments engage in community relations, they do not necessarily work with members of the community -- particularly minority communities -- to better understand and address their specific crime problems. Community policing is also more than a series of programs (block watches). It is a philosophy that requires law enforcement agencies to transform how they deliver police service, manage police resources, interact with the community and work with other components of the criminal justice system. We believe that targeting resources from the President's COPS initiative to high-crime minority neighborhoods will have the dual impact of prevent and reducing crime while also promoting improve police interaction with minorities residents.

We would propose the following four-part initiative:

1. *Launch a targeted initiative to improve policing in historically under protected neighborhoods.* Funds from the COPS program have been used to target gang/youth violence, drugs and other specific crime concerns. We could work with the COPS office and Justice to develop criteria that target high-crime, minority neighborhoods that often receive less police service (i.e., public housing communities) than other neighborhoods. Funds could be used to help hire new officers for to patrol these areas and, to a lesser degree, support community organizations to work hand-in-hand with police.
2. *Promote diversity training throughout the country.* As part of the COPS initiative, Justice has funded 35 Regional Community Policing Institutes throughout the country to provide training in specialty areas such as, problem-solving, community partnerships, community policing in rural and suburban areas, and police integrity and ethics. Diversity training could be an added area of

emphasis.

3. *Establish Citizen Academies.* To help community residents understand police procedures, such as the use of deadly force and arrest policies, some departments sponsor Citizen Academies -- or police academy training sessions for citizens. While no COPS funds currently have been used for this purpose, these academies are specifically authorized in the Crime Bill.
4. *Promote minority recruitment and hiring.* The authorizing statute for the COPS initiative generally requires applicants to make best efforts to promote the hiring of minorities. Justice has not generally enforced this provision, and we could ask them to try and make this requirement more meaningful. However, this would not without controversy. Tougher minority hiring requirements were defeated during the crime bill's consideration, and would be opposed by Members and applicants alike. Alternatively, we could seek to fund a little noticed grant program in the crime bill that aims to promote minority recruitment in law enforcement.

All of these initiatives are authorized in the 1994 crime bill and could be funded within the \$1.4 billion COPS appropriation for FY 1998. We would need about 4 to 6 weeks to work with Justice on developing program criteria. And we would need to make sure that the amount of non-hiring funds proposed for this initiative would not compromise the President's commitment to hire 100,000 more police by FY 2000.

Law Enforcement in Indian Country

Contrary to nationwide trends, violent crime is rising on American Indian reservations. The homicide rate for Indians has increased by 80% in Indian Country since 1992, and is the highest of any ethnic group. Moreover, law enforcement resources in Indian Country are inadequate and have been dwindling -- there are only half as many officers per capita in Indian Country as in the rest of the United States.

To address this problem, on August 25th, the President directed the Attorney General and Secretary of the Interior to make recommendations to him by December 31st on how to improve law enforcement in Indian Country. To link these recommendations with the Race Initiative -- as well as to be considered as part of the FY 1999 budget process -- we have asked Justice and Interior to submit their recommendations to DPC and OMB by October 31st. Expected outcomes from this policy review include the transfer of law enforcement authority from Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Justice

Department, as well as increased law enforcement resources specifically designated for Indian Country.

At-Risk Youth Prevention

Few crime initiatives are as important to the Black and Hispanic Caucuses than preventative efforts targeted at minority youth. That is why these members fought to include billions of dollar for prevention in the 1994 crime bill and to try and defeat the House Republicans juvenile crime bill. Unfortunately, despite our efforts and the efforts of the caucus, few of the crime bill's prevention programs have received any funding -- and few Republicans support including prevention programs in the pending juvenile crime legislation.

Despite the limited support in Congress for prevention, a \$75 million initiative for at-risk youth -- proposed by the President as part of his juvenile crime strategy -- stands a good chance of being funded. To date, Senate appropriators have included this initiative in their versions of the Commerce-Justice-State (CJS) appropriations. If passed, this initiative would give us the rare opportunity (and flexibility) to target truly at-risk and minority youth. We would, however, have to persuade Justice to abandon its current plan to distribute these funds to states on a formula basis.

If this initiative drops out of the final CJS appropriations bill, we will have to look for other, more limited or longer term opportunities to discuss prevention initiative as part of the Race Initiative. The Department of Education's 21st Century Learning Centers would probably be the next best thing to consider.

become even more empty and self-contradictory than usual. García Márquez's most recent stunt was to depart for self-imposed exile from Colombia once again, proclaiming that he could no longer abide the corrupt rule of President Ernesto Samper, a man whom he had previously defended from *gringo* charges of narco-democracy. His refuge? That great drug-free zone, Mexico. (It is just a matter of time before we hear about his intense friendship with, and the Herculean work habits of, Cuauh-témoc Cárdenas.)

García Márquez's advice to young journalists is very, very strange. At his seminar in Cartagena last year, a dozen of Latin America's most promising reporters heard him declare that "journalism is not a job, it's a gland." Picking up the morning Cartagena paper, he turned to the classified ads. A woman was selling her brand-new stove, still in pieces. "Why is the stove unassembled?" García Márquez wondered. "This could be a story. Should we call?" No one at the table knew quite what to say.

But if that non-story qualifies for García Márquez's front page, his own partnership with Castro is not necessarily the news. "This is not an interview," he barked when a member of the seminar broached the subject. "If I want to express my opinion on Fidel, I'll write it myself, and believe me, I'll do a better job." (Besides, this professor of journalistic ethics charges up to \$10,000 for an interview, using the proceeds to finance his film institute in Havana.) "Fidel is one of the people I love most in the world," he explained. "A dictator," someone muttered. The writer shot back: "To have elections is not the only way to be democratic." But a Venezuelan member of the seminar persisted: "No one has elected you to office. You don't have a public office, why do you act as Fidel Castro's honorary chancellor?" "I will not respond to a question asked in bad faith," García Márquez huffed. "I do it because he is my friend, and I believe one must do everything for one's friends. I am always running errands for my friends."

Only a few months after this remarkable exchange, the author of *News of a Kidnapping* stood before the Inter-American Press Association and denounced "bad journalists [who] cherish their source as their own life, especially if it is an official source, and endow it with a mythical quality, protect it, nurture it, and ultimately develop a dangerous complicity with it..." The errand-runner lacks a sense of irony. He also lacks a sense of decency. •

Hostility In America

BY JAMES Q. WILSON

Crime Is Not the Problem: Lethal Violence in America

by Franklin E. Zimring and Gordon Hawkins

(Oxford University Press, 259 pp., \$35)

One of the more frustrating difficulties facing students of crime is our inability to compare crime rates across countries. Interpol gathers crime data from national police agencies, but it does so in a way that make its reports next to worthless. The agency fails to assess the quality of the accounts that it receives, and it presents them in a way bound to cause confusion. Thus, not long ago, someone published an op-ed essay in which the author claimed that the Netherlands had a higher murder rate than did the United States. That is, to put it mildly, an implausible idea. In his defense, however, he displayed the Interpol report. At first glance, the document seemed to confirm his view, until one noticed that every homicide reported for the United States was completed—that is, there was a dead body—but the homicides reported for the Netherlands included both completed, and attempted (no dead body) homicides. The attempts, of course, far outnumbered the actual murders, and there was no explanation of how the Netherlands decided which actions were attempted murders and which were just everyday assaults. We do not know very much, in short, about how the characteristics of nations or their various criminal justice policies affect crime rates.

Franklin Zimring and Gordon Hawkins, two members of the Earl Warren Legal Institute at the University of California at Berkeley, have plunged into this thicket, fully aware of the snags that it contains, to sort out how American crime rates differ from those of comparably industrialized nations. No one will be surprised to learn that the United States has a far higher rate of violent crime, especially homicide, than Western Europe or Australia. But some may be astonished to learn that the rate of property crime here is similar to the rate of property crime elsewhere, and in many cases it is much lower. Zimring and Hawkins conclude that what is often described as the American "crime problem" is in reality a lethal violence prob-

lem, and that the main goal of public policy ought to be to reduce violence.

To do that, we must first understand why our rate of violence is so much higher than in England, Australia, France or Germany. The answer given by Zimring and Hawkins is that we kill each other more often (and engage in property crimes, such as robbery, that often have fatal outcomes) in large part because Americans are more heavily armed than are other societies. Opponents of gun control will reflexively object to this conclusion, but, if they are to prevail, they will have tough going against the arguments made here. Using data from the World Health Organization, a group that counts dead bodies instead of merely repeating police reports, and gathering facts from big-city police departments abroad, Zimring and Hawkins show that American cities are not very different from foreign ones of similar size with respect to theft or burglary, but they are vastly higher with respect to robbery and homicide. New York City has less theft and burglary than London but vastly more robberies and homicides. The same difference exists between Sydney, Australia, and Los Angeles.

Robbery involves the threat of violence; burglary need not involve violence, though violence may occur if the dwelling is occupied when the burglar enters. In neither crime is death likely. But thefts in American cities are more likely to lead to death than are thefts in other nations. In 1992, there were seven deaths in London resulting from a burglary or robbery; in New York City, there were 378, even though New York has fewer such crimes than does London. American property crimes are much more deadly than English ones, in large measure because our thieves are armed. And much the same story can be told about assault. When one Londoner attacks another, death occurs in less than one-half of 1 percent of the cases, but when one New Yorker attacks another, death is the result in over 3 percent of the cases. The reason in part is that firearms are used in 26 percent of all

Race initiative policy -
crime

New York assaults but in only 1 percent of assaults in London.

Still, the use of guns is not the whole story. If one looks only at robberies in which no gun was involved, the death rate in New York City is still three times as high as it is in London. Even in murder cases, guns are not essential: 30 percent of all American homicides did not involve a gun. This means that New Yorkers without a gun kill one another more often than do Londoners however armed. Obviously something more than weaponry makes New York a more lethal environment than London.

Since guns are not the whole story, we have extraordinary differences among our states in how frequently people are killed. Maine and North Dakota have the lowest homicide rates in the country, less than one-tenth of the rates in Louisiana and Mississippi, but the reason cannot be that no one in Maine or North Dakota owns a gun. Rural states are probably armed to the teeth, as anyone knows who has visited them during deer hunting season. The answer must be that personal encounters in rural states are more law-abiding and less productive of personal violence. North Dakota not only has the second-lowest murder rate, it has the second-lowest property crime rate.

Zimring and Hawkins suggest that many American communities are more dangerous not only because guns are more available, but also because personal conflicts are more frequent and more violent. In their words, firearms are "neither a necessary nor a sufficient cause of violent death," but they are a contributing factor. If two men meet in a bar or on a street corner and have an argument, the result of that quarrel will depend heavily on what weapons might be available with which to manage any escalating violence. If there are only fists, only a fist fight can ensue; if there are guns, there may be a fatal shootout. Many years ago Zimring published articles suggesting that murder was often the consequence of an ambiguously motivated assault: at the outset, nobody intended the death of the other, but, as the fight progressed and a gun was at hand, death was the result. To reduce deaths one must either reduce the likelihood of fights or disarm the fighters.

In their new book, Zimring and Hawkins largely reject other popular explanations for violence. They have little use for studies of the impact of the media, and I think that their rebuttals are essentially correct. Violence in the media is everywhere, in London as much as in New York, in Sydney as much

as in Los Angeles, and yet those places differ dramatically in lethal behavior. When all cities are exposed to the same media, it is hard to see how the media can explain differences in violence. No doubt there are copy-cat killers, but their numbers are too small to explain why people in Tokyo almost never kill and those in Atlanta often do.

Violence also accompanies drug dealing, but the proportion of murders that are connected to the drug trade is too small to make much of a difference. The best estimates are that no more than 10 percent of all killings are connected to the drug trade, though from time to time the percentage is much higher in a few cities. Moreover, the laws on drug-dealing are about as tough in Australia as they are here, but drug-connected deaths are about sixty times more common in Los Angeles than in Sydney. In the United States, drug dealing on a large scale has probably created an array of armed gangs that make violent encounters, and thus lethal ones, more likely. But why? That is like asking why the vast majority of drug users are in this country even though almost every country has similar laws.

There is another contributing factor that the authors confront, but not, I think, quite adequately. They ask whether the very high rate of violence among African Americans explains the American homicide rate. There is no denying the core facts. Blacks are five times as likely to kill as are whites; black males are six times as likely to kill as are white males. Homicide is the leading cause of death among young black males, but it is the tenth cause for Americans as a whole. Zimring and Hawkins do not have much to say about why this is true, except to argue that it is probably because African Americans live disproportionately in urban "slum neighborhoods" and because less violent middle-class blacks live in "racial zones" that put them in close proximity to poor blacks.

This is not much of an explanation. Just limiting ourselves to big-city residents reduces the black-white difference in homicide from eight times nationally to only (only!) four times at the big-city level. Moreover, other equally poor and geographically isolated urban groups have much lower crime rates. Koreans, Vietnamese, and Chinese are often poor, and recent arrivals, and many of them live in similar "racial zones," but they kill at a far lower rate than do African Americans.

Now, explaining these differences is not easy. I am not certain what it is, but I expect that it has much to do with the legacy of slavery, lynching and past fail-

ure to enforce the law when blacks harmed other blacks. Oddly, Zimring and Hawkins write as if the explanation is either unimportant or obvious. It is, in fact, neither. If African American murder rates were the same as white murder rates, the national murder rate would drop substantially. The effect of lowering the black murder rate to equal the white one would not make America as safe as other industrialized nations, but it probably would have at least as big an effect as banning the existence of all handguns. Non-gun homicides in New York

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The ancient realists were Epicureans, and they were regarded as dangerous to civilization by Roman leaders, who favored the idealistic philosophies of Platonism, Aristotelianism, and Stoicism. Epicureans denied Providence, viewed man as an evolved animal, saw virtues and laws as manmade, avoided involvement with government, spurned communism, and welcomed women and slaves as fellows. Jews abhorred Epicureans. Nevertheless, evidence exists that Jesus based his teaching on Epicureanism, only changing its theory of how immortal gods are made into a theory of how immortal human beings are made. This evidence is in the recently discovered *Gospel of Thomas*, a collection of 113 sayings of Jesus which radically differ from the Bible's. They are demonstrably notes taken while Jesus taught, for they match chronologically the vestiges of history that underly the Markan myth. They reveal the historical Jesus and his recurring use of Epicurean tenets.

You Will Not Taste Death JESUS AND EPICUREANISM

by Jack Hannah, 321pp.pbk. \$12 postpaid.
Frank Publishing, 1816 Springmill Road,
Mansfield, OH 44903-8907

Four Corners, Vermont

October sun, blue sky
burning the fields sienna,
even the governor upstate
raking a lawn, his kingdom
of this world. That afternoon
on Main Street, at the four
corners, the cop was trying
to push a small bat with
the butt of his pistol from
the window-box by the door
of the Putnam Hotel, an
unused window-box
where the bat, mistaken, caught
by daylight, had fluttered down
like a fallen leaf. Three
townsmen, not doing much
but holding their own, keeping
up on the news, kept watch.
The policeman laughed, tucking
his pistol back in its
holster. The teenage bellhop
so far with nothing to do
has pitched the bat out now.
It quavers to the walk
by the rail of the hotel stairs.
The bellhop and a man
wearing a jack shirt, worn
and too small for his arms,
stomp at it, grinding their heels
between the palings. The boy
runs back inside. It is
Norman Rockwell-ish, this
tableau the passers-by
are watching. Soon the boy
is back and kneeling with
a fork. The leaves have fallen
but the day is warm; even
the governor tidies his lawn.
The boy will jab at the black
remnant, the tines will ring
out, hitting the pavement
again; again. Everyone
in the land must know his place,
any beast
of the field his lair, his own.

STEPHEN SANDY

City are three times as common as all homicides in London, a number that is only a bit smaller than the difference in white-only homicide rates between the two countries.

In fact, Arnold Barnett of MIT has made some calculations that suggest that the homicide rate of adult black males has in fact been coming down much faster than the white homicide rate. No one is quite certain why this has occurred, though certain possible explanations—social progress, residential relocation—are obvious enough. We tend to forget these trends and to dwell instead

on the great increase in juvenile homicide rates that took place between 1985 and 1992. Young people, white and black, were becoming much more lethal in the late 1980s, probably owing to the spread of gangs, their involvement in drug trafficking, and easier access to guns. The increase was greater for blacks. In the last few years, that rate has declined a bit, and this probably helps to explain why the homicide rate generally in the country has experienced so sharp a dip.

But this dip may prove to be short-lived. Census figures show that there will be an increase in the proportion of young people on the streets in the next few years, and there is no reason yet to suppose that those who now lead a life of no fathers, gangs for friends and easy dollars in the drug trade have decided to abandon that life. Rescuing young people from those conditions, a frightfully difficult and expensive proposition, may be as effective as figuring out a way (none now exists) to deny them access to the knives and guns with which they can kill others.

Zimring and Hawkins neglect almost all of these issues in their desire to reassure us that there is no "black problem" in crime. I'm sorry, but there is. It is certainly not the whole problem, and solving it would certainly not solve America's violence problem; Zimring and Hawkins are right to point out that equalizing racial differences in murder, desirable as that may be, would still leave America's homicide rate at least twice as high as the rate in other major industrialized nations. An all-white America would be much more lethal than Italy, Canada, France, Germany and England; and vastly more lethal than Japan.

But that is not the end of the story. It is impossible to deny that very high rates of violence among African Americans (rates that may have been coming down of late among black adults) not only contribute mightily to the problem of life in our cities, they also disfigure and polarize any effort to deal with our most serious domestic problem. The authors at least acknowledge this effect. As long as black violence is at so high a level, they observe, it will reinforce "white fear in ways that palpably contribute to the exclusion of blacks from the social mainstream."

By this point the reader expects that Zimring and Hawkins will offer some remedies for murder. Given their analysis, there are only two such remedies: reduce the availability of guns or lower the frequency of hostile encounters. But they suggest neither. Though they devote two long chapters to "Prevention," reading them reminds me of watching Mike Hargrove getting ready to bat. He comes to the plate. He stretches his shirt, tugs at his glove, pulls at his pants, shifts his cap, adjusts his grip. He gets in place. Then he backs out and does this all over again. To watch Hargrove at bat was like killing time during a rain delay. Will this ever end?

In this book, no. Zimring and Hawkins write that a "book of this kind would be a terrible place to posit a detailed and comprehensive program of loss prevention from violence...." A terrible place? Franklin Zimring has devoted much of the last thirty years of his professional career to studying the impact of guns on violence, and he still has nothing to say about what we should do? If not now, when?

Of course, he does have a few things to say, but mostly by way of criticizing other people's ideas. Zimring and Hawkins dislike many of our prison policies because they think that, under the impact of those policies, we send too many nonviolent offenders to prison. They argue that, in California, the "three strikes" law has had no connection to the recent reduction in the rate of violent crime; but they leave the explanation of this controversial judgment to a document that they do not bother to summarize. (You will have to look it up. But I warn you, it will be a waste of your time.) They attack people who support various popular anti-crime programs for making absurd predictions and failing to evaluate the results.

They are probably right about this. But what programs do they favor, and how should we evaluate them? They speculate about regulating handguns, but they offer no idea as to how it might be done better. They ruminate about violent encounters, but they suggest no way to reduce their frequency except to suggest that victims be "as cooperative as possible" if they are threatened by a robber. They note that some people are trying to teach violence avoidance in the schools, but they conclude that there are "insufficient data to form a judgment" as to whether these plans work.

Perhaps Zimring and Hawkins are vague because they do not have any good ideas. That is not an embarrassing predicament. Very few people have good ideas about this subject, and for good

reason. Eric Monkkonen, after years of careful digging in historical records, has been able to show that the homicide rate in New York City has exceeded that of London by a factor of at least five for the last two hundred years. Similarly, Roger Lane has shown that in the early nineteenth-century Philadelphia had a high homicide rate. Big-city Americans were killing each other at a far higher rate than were Londoners long before the invention of radio and television, and long before the introduction of semi-automatic weapons (and automatic ones) or the sale of any drugs (other than alcohol). It is very hard, I think, to devise an easy way to reduce a homicide rate that has been so high for so long. The hostility of American encounters is at least as important as the presence of American guns. If New York City can have a non-gun homicide rate that is three times larger than the total homicide rate in London, then removing all guns from the United States (which is impossible) would still leave us in a troubling condition.

Suppose we take Zimring's and Hawkins's analysis of the problem as correct, and then try to imagine what might be done. We must begin with the fact that the private ownership of guns cannot be substantially reduced. There are no point-of-sale restrictions that will reduce this huge stock by very much. Moreover, point-of-sale restrictions overlook the fact that most guns used in crimes are stolen or borrowed. And no government can do very much when people believe, with some empirical support, that having a gun makes you safer.

Using the data compiled by the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) of 56,000 families, scholars have estimated that there are, at a minimum, between 65,000 and 80,000 defensive gun uses per year. Some estimates based on private polls suggest much higher defensive uses, ranging up to 1.5 or even 2.5 million. The data supplied by private polls are controversial, since so much depends on inferring society-wide effects from the answers of a tiny number of respondents. (If, to take a recent study, only 54 people out of 2,500 surveyed said they used a gun to defend themselves, then each of the 54 represents 68,000 Americans. Reporting errors—lies, exaggerations, poor memory—on the part of just a few people can have huge effects on the total number of defensive gun uses.) So consider instead the much larger and more reliable NCVS, conducted by the Census Bureau, according to which defensive gun uses in America are not trivial: 65,000 to 80,000 uses each year. No democratic government can

afford to say that, while it is having its own trouble protecting people against crime, it wants to deprive these 65,000 people of the means to protect themselves. Under such conditions, you don't need the National Rifle Association to defeat a government effort to disarm Americans.

There are more desirable and less controversial forms of gun control. The most important is to reduce the chances that a person will carry concealed on his person an uncensored weapon while he walks about town. With a bit of new technology that is now being developed, it may become much easier for the police to spot and to question such gun carriers. Doing this may reduce the rate at which guns will cause angry encounters to escalate into lethal violence.

We also might wonder a bit about the magnitude of our penalties for homicide. They are about the same here as in Europe—that is to say, they are short in both places. Nationally, the median homicide inmate is released from prison after only about six years, while in California the release comes after about three-and-a-half years. Even many offenders sentenced to prison "for life" spend much less time there. Some inmates, of course, spend a lot of time in prison. But the small number of years the median (and the average) offender serves suggests the low price that we generally place on the average victim's life. These sentences should be made longer.

And much remains to be done, finally, to lead children away from a life on the street. We are still trying to learn how best to do this, but a growing body of evidence suggests that early intervention in the lives of very young, at-risk children and their mothers (often there is no father) can make a lasting difference. It will take another generation to learn whether these plausible guesses will bear lasting results for large number of children, but the nation's perpetually high homicide rate suggests that it might be time well spent.

Above all, we will have to learn to think about our crime problem historically. It took England several centuries of tough rule, brutal punishment and the inculcation of class-based values to achieve a low homicide rate. America has spent less time at the task, and it has sought to inculcate different values. As someone once said, the low murder rate in England is produced the same way you produce good lawns: plant good seed and then roll it for three hundred years. Zimring and Hawkins offer some sensible data on violent crime rates, but they plant no seeds and they roll no lawns.

JAMES Q. WILSON is the author most recently of *Moral Judgment* (Basic Books).

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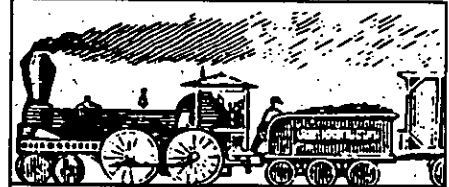
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Race Initiative Policy - crime



Jose Cerda III

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Record Type: Record

To: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: Race "Positives" on Crime

EK:

I'm not crazy about this, but I hope it helps. I've tried to take some of our biggest accomplishments on crime and cast them in the most positive light, but I'm afraid this effort needs continued work. Clearly, though, community policing, gun violence and crime prevention are the three biggest positives. If we want, we can get Leanne to dig up some good cop anecdotes tomorrow if that's helpful. I'm afraid I've struck out for now (as I mentioned) on some specific -- and juicy -- tidbits relating to police hiring.

Jose'

(I won't be in tomorrow, but I'll be pageable until about noon. I leave a forwarding phone with signal if you need me later or Saturday. I'll be back Sunday in the afternoon.)