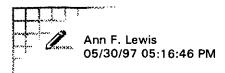
NLWJC - Kagan DPC - Box 051 - Folder-004

Race-Race Initiative Policy: Historical Ideas

Race Viluidiation Policy historical ideas



Record Type: Record

To: E

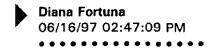
Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc:

Sylvia M. Mathews/WHO/EOP

Subject: Race and Policy

I suggest looking at historical/cultural ideas for possible policy/action items. Sylvia mentioned the Slavery Museum. I also have been saving a wire service story about bipartisan legislation to preserve the Underground Railway, sponsored by Carol Mosely-Braun and Mike DeWine in the Senate, Rob Portman and Lou Stokes in the House. (Plus Gingrich.)



Record Type:

Record

To:

Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: race

From the unsolicited idea department as you follow up on the race issue: I think Washington should have a monument or a museum on slavery that tourists visit as they do the other monuments. I believe some African-American group is trying to raise money for one, along the lines of the Holocaust Museum, but they haven't raised much. A museum on slavery just opened in Detroit and has gotten very good press. Vietnam proved you can do successful and healing memorials on difficult topics. The apology approach worked well for radiation and Tuskegee, but now it is coming under a microscope and people are belittling it. A memorial or museum is a similar idea, but it has an educational dimension and a more lasting effect. As such a major part of our country's history that still has repercussions today, slavery seems conspicuously absent here in DC -- other than through the Lincoln Memorial, of course, which tells it from a particular perspective.

Just a thought as you guys go forward on this; please feel no need to respond.