

NLWJC - Kagan

DPC - Box 071 - Folder-005

0-3 [Conference] - 0-3 Follow Up

Who to talk to
from states on
child care?

0-3
Follow-up

8-14
0-3 Follow-up

1. Report - Draft.

About 6 weeks. (3-4 to print)
Make an event.

2. F.L. to visit military base
Quantico / highlight initiative
Mtg this The 1st Ctr of Excellence
Roundtable discussion
military other talk.

hosted
↳
Rondeletti?
well-to-oh-
wellness list.

3. Speech Monday DGA
party on early childhood
also-children's health -
and education

FL.
w/ Malala-
Istanbul
request
followed by press briefing
+ radio address on
ch's health

4. Prescription for ready-to-launch - also FL. Baltimore

* 5. Time - we will get great immunization #s.
→ pair w/ welfare ref?

Child care //

↳ convene mtg w/ child care
David Hamburg
- Joan L. - specific needs
- Deborah Philips (w/ panel
in panel -
c.c.)

and us

- call Shay at DOT
- E.W. (CPA/CEQ mtg)
- Standards - MC
- Medicaid (TK)
- Bond get status - head start

Wage bill signing an adoption
DC Poor efforts
When pass the Senate?

Bruce/Tenk/Nicole -
FYI, in case you
haven't seen.
Elena

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

May 12, 1997

The Honorable Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,


We applaud you for making education a top priority during the recent budget negotiations, and share your belief that investment in education is absolutely critical to the future success of both our young people and the entire nation. As details to the budget agreement are being finalized, we are writing to urge you to increase the investment in children during their first years of life.

As you know from the recent *White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning*, new scientific evidence proves that experiences during the earliest years of life -- before children reach school age -- are critical to their cognitive, physical and emotional development. It is vital that children are given the nurture and support that they need in their earliest years to prepare them for the challenges of school and later life.


Since the most recent adjusted CBO estimates have revealed an additional \$225 billion over the next five years, we believe that a portion of this money must be set aside for additional investments in our nation's very youngest children. A minimum of \$5 billion, 2% percent of this total, should be set aside to supplement State and local investments in children from birth through five years of age. This set aside should not include the America Reads initiative or the Head Start program, and should be an additional initiative.

If we are willing to allocate \$37 billion in incremental spending to expand Pell Grants and provide tax deductions for higher education, then we must give children the tools and support early on to help them to be able to take advantage of these advanced educational opportunities later in life. We urge you to set aside a minimum of \$5 billion within the context of a five-year balanced budget for new investments in children during their first years of life.

Sincerely,


Tim Roemer
Member of Congress


Patsy Mink
Member of Congress


Bob Etheridge
Member of Congress

Monty Meek

Carrie Meek

Bill Pasorell Jr

Rubin Higgins

Allen Tauscher

Jim Coris

Robert A. Underwood

David Price

W.A. Angel

Rosa L. Delano

Ron Kind

Hayl Dwyer

Jim Moran

Nathan

Paul Felt

Vic Fyfe

Jim McEwen

Mike McFutye

Charles Romeo-Baugh

Debbie Taber

Sander Levin

Wesley Stabenow

Lynn S. Rivers

John J. Adams

Bob Clement

Vin Snyder

Neil Abernethy

Pete Stark

John D. Dingell

Bob Wygant

Bill Clay

Patrick H. Duff

Pete Stark

John M. C. Adams

Bob

Sam

Tom Barnett

John Rye

Bob

Elizabeth Dumas

John Sprain

Paul

Tom Allen

James

Al Doney

Bob Finney

Bill Gaswell Jr

Esteban Torres

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- Elliot L. Richardson**
Former US Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
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- Grant Woods**
Attorney General, AZ

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Fdr., Mothers of All Children
- Ellen Halbert**
Vice-Chair, Texas Board of
Criminal Justice
- Carole Grant Hall**
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
- Marc Klaas**
Fdr., Klaas Fdn. for Children
- Dennis Lees, Ph.D.**
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
- Jean Lewis**
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
- Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

cc: Fox/Ten
(return)

0-3 follow up

June 13, 1997

Ms. Elena Kagan
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Old Executive Office Building, Room 224
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Kagan,

John Leibowitz in Senator Kohl's office suggested that I get in touch with you to open a discussion of how we might work together on issues affecting children and crime prevention.

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS is a national organization of police, prosecutors and crime survivors. Our mission is to help the public understand that our most powerful weapons against crime are investments in programs that help kids get the right start — programs ranging from Head Start and health care for kids, to after-school and summer programs.

I've enclosed a copy of a letter to Rahm Emanuel providing a bit of additional background on FIGHT CRIME's efforts.

I would be delighted to get together with both of you at the same time, or separately, to talk about ways in which we might collaborate.

Sincerely,

Sanford A. Newman
President

Enclosures

- Letter to Rahm Emanuel
- Letter to Senator Orrin Hatch
- Illustrative Crime Prevention Studies
- Police Chief Poll
- Selected Op-Eds

- President**
Sanford A. Newman
- Associate Directors**
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons
Elissa Rumsey

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VIOLENCE PREVENTION
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- J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D.**
Dir., Ctr. for Child and Family
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- Steven Marans, Ph.D.**
Director, Program on Child
Development-Community
Policing, Yale Child Study Ctr.
- Ray Marshall, Ph.D.**
Former US Secretary of Labor;
Chair in Economics and Public
Affairs, Univ. of Texas - Austin
- Jack McDevitt, Ph.D.**
Professor, College of Criminal
Justice, Northeastern Univ.;
Co-Director, Center for Criminal
Justice Policy Research
- Lisbeth B. Schorr**
Lecturer in Social Medicine,
Harvard University
- David P. Weikart, Ph.D.**
President, High/Scope
Educational Research Fdn.
- Bernice Weissbourd**
President, Family Resource
Council
- Richard Weissbourd, Ph.D.**
Professor, Kennedy School of
Government, Harvard
- Chuck Wexler, Ph.D.**
Executive Director, Police
Executive Research Forum



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**Gordon Rondeau &
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Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

June 13, 1997

Rahm Emanuel
Senior Advisor to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Rahm,

It may seem a bit of a change from the work I was doing at Project VOTE!, but I'm now heading an organization of police, prosecutors and crime survivors. I'd like to get together with you to talk about ways in which we might work together.

Our mission is to help the public understand that our most powerful weapons against crime are investments in programs that help kids get the right start — programs ranging from Head Start and health care for kids, to after-school and summer programs.

You have obviously recognized in your own work that police, prosecutors and crime survivors have a unique credibility in talking about how best to fight crime.

Support among crime fighters for the sharply boosting public investment in kids is both wide and deep. For example, when we asked police chiefs to rank the long-term effectiveness of a number of possible crime fighting approaches, "increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" was picked as "most effective" *nearly four times more often than* "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

This broad support is also reflected in the breadth of our national Advisory Committee, which includes some of the best-known police chiefs in the country, the Presidents of the FOP and IUPA, and such crime survivors as Marc Klaas and the President of the national organization Parents of Murdered Children. All have endorsed a sweeping Crime Prevention Agenda calling for boosting investments in kids.

We're finding similar results as we begin organizing at the state level. Our Illinois Committee, for example, includes virtually all of the most prominent law enforcement figures in the state, ranging from Attorney General Jim Ryan to the presidents of all four of the state's major

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Sanford A. Newman

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Executive Director, Police
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Rahm Emanuel
June 13, 1997
page 2 of 2


law enforcement organizations (the sheriffs, chiefs, and prosecutors associations and the state FOP), all of whom just pushed for a state legislative package of early childhood and child care bills which were at odds with the Governor's budget and had substantial right-wing opposition.

While we are just now beginning to focus on national legislation, we expect to speak out repeatedly through op eds and press events in the weeks ahead on the juvenile crime bills pending in Congress, advocating Head Start expansion, health care for kids, and expanding early childhood programs.

I've enclosed copies of a few earlier op eds by our Advisory Committee members, together with other background materials and a copy of the letter we recently sent to Senator Hatch.

John Leibowitz on Senator Kohl's staff had asked that we also get together with Elena Kagan, so I'll send her a copy of this letter and enclosures as well.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Warmly,

Sanford A. Newman
President

Attachments:

Letter to Senator Orrin Hatch
Illustrative Crime Prevention Studies
Police Chief Poll
Selected Op-Eds

cc: Elena Kagan

The Boston Globe

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Studies prove it: The best way to fight crime is to invest in children

**ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON
and R. GIL KERLIKOWSKE**

All across America, candidates for federal, state and local office are talking about crime. But too few are focusing on our most effective weapons in the battle against crime — the proven investments that help children get the right start in life so they become contributing citizens instead of criminals.

Incarcerating dangerous criminals is a vital defense. But few battles are won with defensive tactics alone. Those of us who have been on the front lines as police, prosecutors and crime survivors know America must fight crime not just from the back but by investing in Head Start and parenting education, "keep up" programs to prevent overburdened schools and vulnerable students from falling behind, after-school, mentoring and job training programs and strategies to address delinquency and help troubled children get back on track.

Do these investments really reduce crime? Absolutely. For example:

■ The High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study in Ypsilanti, Mich., showed that when at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds were randomly assigned to receive child care similar to a Head Start program, together with a weekly home visit providing coaching for parents, the risk these children would grow up to become chronic lawbreakers was cut by a startling 80 percent.

■ The Syracuse University Family Development Study showed that providing quality early-childhood programs to families until children reached age 5 reduces the children's risk of delinquency 10 years later by 90 percent.

■ The Quantum Opportunities Program, conducted in Philadelphia, San Antonio, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Saginaw, has shown that a high school program of counseling, academic and life-skills support, community service and other incentives cut the risk of arrest during high school years by 50 percent.

Even when youths begin to get into trouble, we don't have to throw in the towel. The Salt Lake County Juvenile Court, for example, found that when it randomly assigned some delinquent children and their families to participate in family systems counseling, their risk, as well as their siblings' risk, of committing an offense was cut in half.

No wonder that in a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDavitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said, "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in these programs. Police chiefs know their first

criminals and seizing drugs and guns from the street. But when asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in children by a 3-to-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Can we afford to make these investments? Economist Steve Barnett estimates that the High/Scope preschool program saved nearly \$150,000 in crime costs alone per participant. Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million. Yet these investments are so underfunded that they can reach only tiny fractions of those who need them.

That is why we recently joined with many other police leaders, prosecutors and crime survivors in launching the "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign" and in challenging candidates to tell the American people what they will do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime.

Back-end, punishment-only approaches can't undo the agony crime leaves behind. As Marc Klaas explained, after his 12-year-old daughter's murderer was sentenced to death: "That won't bring Polly back. When politicians pretend that punishing criminals after people are hurt is a substitute for preventing crimes, the first people who get sentenced are crime victims and their families — sentenced to shattered lives and broken hearts."

Ignoring prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. To make America safe, we need to be as willing to guarantee our kids space in Head Start or an after-school or job training program as we are to guarantee room and board in a prison cell for a criminal.

We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest time and dollars in our most vulnerable youths before they become our most wanted adults.

It's time Republicans and Democrats joined in a commitment to the investments in children. These programs are our strongest weapons in the fight against crime. Each of us should join Jean Lewis, president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, in taking this pledge: "When I cast my vote, I'll be asking which candidates are ready to fight crime not only from the back end after someone has been hurt, but also from the front end by investing in today's children — because anything else is too little, too late."

Elliot L. Richardson served as US attorney general, secretary of commerce, secretary of defense and secretary of health, education and welfare. Buffalo Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske is president of the Police Ex-

The Charlotte Observer

ALTHO EDITION

+ C

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1996

The economics of crime: Pay now or pay later

Prosecutors know America will never win the war on crime until it invests more in getting kids the right start.

By PETER GILCHRIST

Special to The Observer

Crime is a major issue in federal, state and local elections across the country.

Most candidates spare no effort to prove they are the "toughest in their district." But few bother to tell us what they will do to strengthen our most powerful weapons against crime — the proven investments that help kids get the right start in life so they grow up to be contributing citizens instead of criminals.

This month, police, prosecutors and crime survivors from around the country, fed up with political dogans, said "Enough!" The crime

fighters have joined together to launch a nonpartisan campaign called Fight Crime: Invest In Kids and to write to all the nation's candidates.

Of course, they are determined to lock up dangerous criminals. But here's their challenge to candidates: What will you do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime — like parenting education, Head Start, child abuse prevention, after-school programs, and programs to keep kids from falling behind in school?

What makes us think programs like these prevent crime? First-hand, hard-nosed, real-world experience — and scientific evidence like this:

■ High/Scope's Perry Preschool randomly selected half of a group of vulnerable kids to receive a high

quality Head Start-type program when they were 3 to 4 years old, with weekly at-home coaching for their parents. A look at arrest records 23 years after the toddlers finished the program found that those who had not received the services were five times as likely to have more than four arrests.

■ Syracuse University's Family Development Research Program shows a 90 percent cut in delinquency resulting from early childhood programs.

■ The Quantum Opportunities Program showed that involving vulnerable high school kids in community service and providing them with counseling and with academic and other support cut in half the number who wound up arrested.

Last year, our office dealt with 9,000 felonies and sent a lot of people to prison — enough to tell me that street criminals and drug dealers are recruiting new troops for their army about as fast as we can get them locked up.

Prosecutors know America will

never win the war on crime until it invests more in getting kids the right start. We can pay now or pay later.

Police chiefs agree. Chief Dennis Nowicki says, "Shortchanging prevention efforts shortchanges public safety. We need to be as ready to provide tutoring or an after-school program for innocent kids as we are to guarantee criminals room and board in a jail cell."

Raleigh Police Chief Mitchell Brown says that when politicians ignore these right-start investments, "they are throwing away the weapons that could help us get the upper hand against crime." Greensboro Chief Sylvester Daughtry says, "We have to keep putting dangerous criminals behind bars. But we have to fight just as hard to keep kids from becoming criminals in the first place, and that means getting all kids the early childhood care, the good schools, and the youth programs they need."

In a recent poll, 9 out of 10 police chiefs agreed that "America could

sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs for kids," and warned that if we do not increase those investments now, "we will pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

Despite all the evidence, Congress has so shortchanged Head Start that it can serve only a third of our most vulnerable 3 and 4 year olds. Other programs serve even smaller fractions of the kids who need them. We can be proud of North Carolina's Smart Start community-based initiatives for kids, but far more remains to be done.

When you cast your votes, ask which candidates are ready to fight crime from the front end by investing in today's children rather than only from the back end after someone has been hurt. If voters want to know who is really going to do something about crime, that is a key question to ask.

Peter Gilchrist is Mecklenburg County district attorney. Write him c/o The Observer, P.O. Box 30308, Charlotte, NC 28230-0308.



Gilchrist

BOSTON HERALD



WILLIAM BRATTON and SANFORD NEWMAN

Fighting crime before it starts

Police, prosecutors and crime survivors from across America recently issued an unusual challenge to federal, state and local candidates. Tell the American people, we urged, what you will do to increase the investments in kids that have been proven to dramatically reduce crime — like Head Start, good schools, after-school programs, parenting education, counseling for at-risk kids and child abuse prevention.

Have we suddenly gone soft on crime? Hardly. We know there is no substitute for locking up dangerous criminals, and that efficient policing matters. Between 1984 and 1996, tough, smart policing played a key role in cutting New York City's violent crime rate by 36 percent. But policy-makers should not draw the wrong lesson from that experience. Prevention of crime is the ultimate goal — not just officially responding to it.

Those of us who have been on the front lines know that, in the long run, winning the war on crime also will require cutting the enemy's key supply line: its ability to turn kids into criminals. Each day gangs and drug dealers assiduously recruit our children for their army. To fight back, we must utilize other powerful crime fighting weapons — the proven "right-start" programs and strategies that give kids the armor of values, skills and positive experiences to

ward off crime and violence.

The good news is that America's crime-fighting arsenal includes enormously powerful "right-start" programs. The bad news: We're fighting crime with one hand tied behind our backs because these programs, like so many prevention-oriented initiatives, are so starved for funding that they reach only a tiny fraction of the children who need them. That's why so many police, prosecutors and crime survivors have joined together to launch a **Fight Crime: Invest In Kids** offensive. Our message is simple: If we want a two-fronted attack on crime, we need to give kids a helping hand.

When the High/Scope Foundation's research tells us that kids denied its early childhood program were five times as likely to become multiple offenders, and Syracuse University's research tell us those denied its services were 10 times as likely to engage in delinquency, it's common sense to provide early childhood programs.

When the peak hours for juvenile crime are between school dismissal and 6 p.m., and when studies of programs like Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring shows they cut by 30-50 percent the risk of kids using drugs or engaging in violence, it's common sense to provide after-school, weekend and summer tutoring, mentoring and recreation

When being abused as a child nearly doubles the chances of growing up to be a violent criminal, it's common sense to protect abused children and to provide the parenting-coaching programs that have been shown to cut child abuse by 50-80 percent.

Few of those who wind up in our prisons were born to become criminals. Their behavior is learned behavior. Offering kids the experience and mentoring they need to become good citizens is just common sense — and self-defense. Indeed, it is a basic tenet of the community policing philosophy that we have embraced in New York City.

That's why, in a recent survey conducted by Northeastern University criminologist Jack McDewitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in programs for kids.

Skimping on investments in kids is penny-wise and pound-foolish.

William Bratton was New York City police commissioner from January 1994 to April 1996, Boston police commissioner in 1993 and is currently vice chairman of First Security Services Corporation.

*Sanford Newman is an attorney who has been a victim of crime and is president of **Fight Crime Invest in Kids**.*

The San Diego Union-Tribune

OPINION

■ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Fighting crime by investing in kids

By Marc Klaas

My daughter Polly has made a lot of headlines in this campaign season. While I cannot support those who use her tragic death to distort an opponent's record, I do very much want Polly's death to help save other lives, and I know Polly would have felt that was the best memorial we could give her. In fact, the last words she said as she was led out of her bedroom at knifepoint were a plea that her abductor not hurt anyone else.

But if Polly's death is to help protect others, we need to go beyond talking about the death penalty, or even about prison sentences and focus on the most critical steps our communities and our nation can take to protect all of our children.

Giving them the right start

As hard as I fought to see that Polly's killer received the death sentence he deserves, that won't bring Polly back. But we can save thousands of children and adults if we invest now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start and keep them from becoming criminals in the first place.

The plain truth is that the most powerful weapons we have against crime are programs like Head Start, parenting education, mentoring, good schools and after-school programs, and job training — programs that can dramatically reduce crime by helping kids become productive citizens instead of brutal criminals. For example:

- High/Scope Educational Research Foundation's Perry Preschool study combined a high-quality Head Start-style program for 3- and 4-year-olds with weekly home visits to coach their parents. Due to lack of funding, High Scope randomly chose half the children who applied.

KLAAS founded the Klaas Foundation for Children after his 12-year-old daughter, Polly, was abducted and murdered.

Twenty-three years later, its researchers found that those kids denied the Head Start/parenting education program were five times as likely to have become chronic lawbreakers.

- Other studies show that help for older kids can also significantly improve their — and our — chances. For example, when the Quantum Opportunities Program had high school kids participate in community service and gave them counseling, academic help and financial incentives, it cut the risk of arrest by 50 percent.

If you don't trust the studies, ask America's police. In a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDevitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said "America could sharply reduce crime" if government invested more in these Right Start programs.

Asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in kids by a 3-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Nine out of ten warned that if we don't boost these investments, "we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

High Scope's Perry Preschool, for example, saved \$148,000 in crime costs alone for every child served. Yet these right-start investments are so under-funded that they can't begin to serve more than a small portion of the kids who need them.

Don't get me wrong. No one feels more strongly than I that we need to get dangerous criminals off the streets and behind bars.

But if we don't invest in programs that help children become caring citizens instead of brutal criminals, we will all pay an unfathomable cost in broken lives and broken hearts.

That's why police, prosecutors and crime survivors from all over America, in-

cluding Oakland County Police Chief Joe Samuels and Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, joined recently in launching an important new anti-crime offensive called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign.

Time, energy and tax dollars

Our message is simple: We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest our time, energy and our tax dollars in America's most vulnerable children so that they never become America's most wanted adults. Anything else is too little too late.

That's why, when I realized that California's poorly written version of the three-strikes law was locking up people who weren't dangerous, and was taking resources away from badly needed investments in kids that could stop far more crime, I began to speak out against it.

It is why I'll vote for Proposition 217, which would restore a small portion of the funds that are needed if we are to provide kids with adequate schools and social services, and Proposition 210, to raise the minimum wage so that young people will know that hard work pays, and that they don't need to turn to crime to make ends meet.

It's also the reason that Fight Crime: Invest in Kids has called on candidates to tell the voters what it will do to fight crime before anyone gets hurt, by boosting investment programs for kids.

If voters want to know who's really going to do something about crime, they need to ask which candidates are ready not just to punish criminals after people have been hurt, but also to make the investments in kids that could have stopped so many of those crimes from happening in the first place.

Candidates who ignore that question are ignoring our most effective weapons against crime.

OPINION

Fight crime by investing in kids

By Ellen Halbert
Austin, Texas

On Labor day weekend 10 years ago, I was a victim of a crime so bizarre and violent that even today it is difficult to believe it could have happened. It took over 600 stitches and several operations to repair the damage. I was ripped inside and out in every way possible — physically, sexually and emotionally. But somehow I survived and healed.

Today, in federal, state, and local elections across the country, I hear candidates, out to prove they are the "toughest crime fighters on their turf," focusing only on punishment and ignoring the most powerful weapons in our crime-fighting arsenal.

Brutal criminals like the one who attacked me need to be locked up. But more prisons and police can't undo the agony I went through. When you look at what works to prevent crime, you learn that our first line of defense is to invest in programs like Head Start and Smart Start, parenting education, good schools, after school programs and job training — the investments that keep kids from becoming criminals.

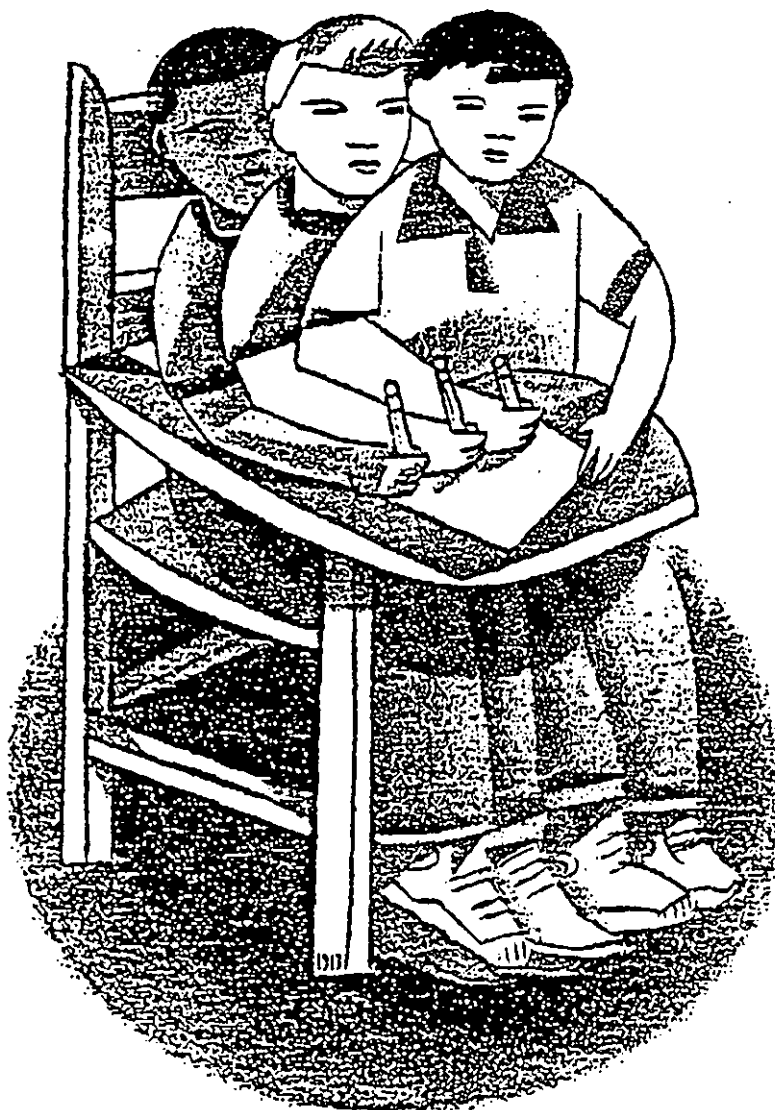
Our second line of defense is to invest in the drug treatment and rehabilitation strategies that keep problem children from becoming hardened criminals.

One study after another shows that investments in kids dramatically reduce crime. For example:

- The High/Scope Perry Preschool study shows that toddlers randomly assigned to participate in a preschool program and weekly home visits were 80 percent less likely than a control group to have become chronic lawbreakers as adults.

- A similar Syracuse Family Development Study shows a 90 percent cut in delinquency resulting from early childhood programs.

It is also clear that we don't have to give up on kids who are already headed in the wrong direc-



tion. A Salt Lake County program, for example, showed that providing delinquent youths and their families effective family counseling cut by 50 percent the risk of further delinquency for youths — and for their siblings.

These crime-prevention investments save tax dollars. The Perry Preschool study, for example, found average savings of \$150,000 per child in subsequent crime costs. What happened to me didn't have to happen. The teen-ager who so

viciously attacked me wasn't born to rape and murder. There were dozens of places along the way where we as a nation could have stepped in to get him on a track to being a contributing citizen, and we failed to do it.

That's why I have joined with other crime survivors, police and prosecutors from across the nation in launching the **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids** campaign. Together, we're calling on politicians to skip the sound bites and tell the Ameri-

can people what they'll do to box the investments in children that a our most powerful weapons again crime.

Law-enforcement leaders a virtually unanimous. A recent p by Northeastern University crim nologist Jack McDavitt, for exam ple, showed that nine out of police chiefs (92 percent) agr that "America could sharply r duce crime if government invest more in programs to help childr and youth get a good start" by "fi ly funding Head Start for infar and toddlers, preventing chi abuse, providing parenting edu tion to high-risk families, impro ing schools and providing aft school programs and mentoring."

When chiefs ranked the lon term effectiveness of a number possible crime-fighting approach, increasing investments in kids w picked as "most effective" near three times as often as either "u ing more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police of cers."

In the end, it is the responsi ty of government to do all that can to fight crime by seeing th kids are getting the help they ne to become responsible citizens.

That's why Jean Lewis, pre dent of the National Organizati of Parents of Murdered Childr advises: "When I cast my vote, be asking which candidates r ready to fight crime not only fr the back-end after someone h been hurt, but also from the fro end by investing in today's childr — because anything else is too tle, too late."

In 1986, Halbert was rap and stabbed three times in chest. Her attacker then used hammer to strike her 10 tim on the head and to pound knife into her skull. Miraculouly, she lived, to become active victims' rights efforts and to come vice chairman of the Tex Board of Criminal Justu which oversees the Texas pris and parole system.

Coverage of the press conference ran on at least 28 TV stations across the country in the following markets: New York, NY; Detroit, MI; Houston, TX; Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL; Phoenix, AZ; Denver, CO; Baltimore, MD; Hartford, CT; San Diego, CA; Milwaukee, WI; Cincinnati, OH; Providence, RI; Richmond, VA; Austin, TX; Santa Barbara, CA; Pensacola, FL; Elkhart, IN; Memphis, TN; Raleigh, NC; Winston-Salem, NC; MSNBC and several cable stations.

DATE	July 26, 1996	ACCOUNT NUMBER	14/2838
TIME	6:30-7:00 PM	NIELSEN AUDIENCE	99,000
STATION	WTVT-TV(Fox) Channel Thirteen		
LOCATION	Tampa, Fla.		
PROGRAM	13 Eyewitness World News		

JOHN WILSON, anchor:

Spend more money to keep kids out of trouble and Americans won't have to spend their tax money on prisons. That's what a new group of citizen activists say is the key to the crime problem. Eyewitness World News reporter Pat Rogers has more on it from Washington.

PATRICK ROGERS reporting:

You'd think (footage of various people speaking at a podium from Washington, DC) Ellen Halbert would be bitter, and you'd certainly think she would want revenge.

Ms. ELLEN HALBERT (Crime Victim): I was raped. I was stabbed four times; once in the chest, twice in the neck and he hammered a knife into my skull.

ROGERS: Halbert doesn't spend time wondering if her jailed attacker is getting what he deserves. She's convinced that somewhere along the line, the boy who raped her did not get what he needed.

Ms. HALBERT: He is one of our society's failures and that there was no one to reach out a hand to him when he needed them.

ROGERS: Halbert and others are part of the new group called Invest in Kids. The group wants lawmakers to spend more money on crime prevention. They say spending money on kids could keep them on the right path and out of prison.

Mr. ART REDDY (Police Union): Every kid turned away from crime by a prevention program is one less kid we have to arrest.

Mr. SANDY NEWMAN (Invest in Kids): When we tell America's kids we can't afford to give them the start they need, we're not only stealing their future, we're jeopardizing our own safety.

ROGERS: But Invest in Kids faces an uphill battle. Lawmakers these days want to fight crime only by increasing prison sentences, not increasing social spending. In fact, they're thinking about cutting that kind of spending right now on Capitol Hill.

Ms. HALBERT: So if you really want to be tough on crime, let's put our money where our mouth is and let's begin with the kids.

ROGERS: In Washington, Pat Rogers reporting.

David Broder's column about FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ran in more than 140 newspapers nationwide including *The Washington Post*, *Atlanta Journal & Constitution*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Seattle Time & Post Intelligencer*, *San Diego Union Tribune*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Oregonian*, *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, and many others.

David Broder

Pseudo-tough talk about juvenile crime

2838

WASHINGTON — It is a fascinating paradox of politics that the further removed an official is from the front lines of the war on crime, the tougher he talks.

That is particularly true of violence by juveniles, a problem that Americans rightly find alarming.

When Republican candidate Bob Dole talked about it in a radio address earlier this month, he promised to crack down on these "merciless criminals capable of committing the most vicious acts for the most trivial reasons: a pair of sneakers or a football jersey."

When President Clinton responded a few days later, he spoke in ominous tones of the fact that in the last two decades, "The number of homicides by teens who have guns has tripled."

BOTH SAID prosecutors should have much more leeway to try juveniles as adults.

"If a teen-ager commits a crime as an adult," Clinton said, "he should be prosecuted as an adult."

Before leaving the Senate, Dole introduced legislation to allow adult prosecution of people as young as 13 and the death penalty at 16.

But when a cross section of police chiefs was surveyed by Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy on the effectiveness of four approaches to reducing crime and violence, the least favored option was the one candidates Dole and Clinton have endorsed — and many governors already have put into effect.

Only 14 percent of the 540 chiefs chose the policy of trying more juveniles as adults and sentencing more of them to adult prisons.

About the same number said hiring additional police officers would be the



What works is early work with kids.

best tool and a somewhat larger group said the priority should be making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.

The overwhelming majority — three out of every four big city chiefs and three out of five in the overall sample — said the best way to reduce crime and violence is to increase investment in programs that help children and youths get a good start.

These findings were reported at a Washington press briefing last week by a new advocacy group calling itself "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids," run by an activist named Sanford Newman. Participants included police chiefs of Chicago and Buffalo, former chiefs of New York City, Detroit and Washington and the head of the largest police organization, the Fraternal Order of Police.

A cynic might argue that the chiefs — who are, after all, mostly appointees — have just found new rhetoric to support old programs that pump federal money into the cities.

But the cynical view will not withstand the sincerity of people like Gil Kerlikowske of Buffalo, who complained, "The preventive programs are getting lost because everyone (in politics) is trying to grow hair on his chest in this election year."

What he means is illustrated by the juvenile crime bill Dole introduced. It would allocate \$100 million a year for prevention programs run by communi-

ty-based groups, including religious organizations, and four times that amount for investigating, prosecuting and jailing juvenile offenders. The whole \$500 million would be paid for by cutting "social spending provisions" of the 1994 crime bill, including after-school and family counseling programs.

James Alan Fox, the Northeastern University center's director, presented studies from criminology literature showing that intensive early intervention can reduce the later delinquency and criminal behavior of at-risk youths by as much as 80 percent. In Lansing, Mich., when police, schools and social service agencies began youth programs in a new community center, the number of crimes in nearby neighborhoods was cut from 156 in 1990 to 40 in 1993.

I was skeptical about these case studies. But John J. Dilulio Jr., of Princeton, a scholar whose work is much admired by conservatives and who was not part of this group, told me, "The more scientific the study, the stronger the link and the more positive the results. We now can say with some confidence that programs that get responsible adults involved with at-risk kids can reduce later delinquency and crime."

THAT IS of enormous importance, because teen-agers have the highest arrest rate for violent offense and in the next decade, the number of teen-agers will explode. There are now 39 million children under age 10, the most since the 1950s.

Prosecuting teen criminals as adults may satisfy political pressures, but we better be serious about preventing their younger brothers from becoming criminals — or we are in big trouble.

Coalition looking for ways to prevent youth violence

By Healy, Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Marc Klaas spoke Friday steeled for closing arguments in the sentencing of the man convicted of abducting and murdering his 10-year-old daughter, Polly, in 1993. But as the grim milestone approached, the bereaved father-turned-victims' rights advocate was thinking as much about prevention as about retribution. Life attorneys in California pressed to argue whether Richard Allen Davis should live or die, as joined a new coalition of organizations, prosecutors and the victims in advocating children's service programs as the most effective crime-fighting tool

the nation has to thwart an impending wave of youth violence.

His voice piped into a Washington conference room filled with crime-fighters and fellow crime victims. Klaas touted the benefits of early-childhood programs such as Head Start, parenting classes, organized after-school activities, job training and mentoring initiatives.

"Stopping crime by building more prisons is like trying to cure death by building more cemeteries," Klaas told reporters by telephone. The nation, he added, "holds in its hands the vaccines that can stem the tide of this epidemic (of violent crime) — programs that can help children become caring citizens instead of brutal criminals. ... If we

Stopping crime by building more prisons is like trying to cure death by building more cemeteries.

Marc Klaas
Polly Klaas' father

say we can only afford those vaccines for some kids, we will all pay an unfathomable cost in broken lives and broken hearts."

Klaas' plea came during a Washington news conference launching a new organization called "Fight

Crime: Invest in Kids." At a time when lawmakers are targeting a wide range of youth and crime-prevention programs for budget cuts and restructuring, the group will press Congress and state legislatures to support programs aimed

at improving the lives of the children most likely to become juvenile offenders and adult criminals.

Sanford A. Newman, founder and president of the group, Friday cited a cluster of studies that evaluated the impact of several such programs, arguing there is no better way to drive down violent crime than to invest in programs for children at risk.

In one such study, low-income families whose 3-to-5-year-old children were enrolled in an intensive pre-school program with weekly home visits were compared with children in the same housing project who were not enrolled. More than 20 years later, the arrest rates of those who participated in the

program were one-half that of those who did not, and the numbers of "chronic offenders" — those arrested more than four times — went from one-in-three among nonparticipants to one-in-14 among those who had been enrolled in the program.

There are currently 39 million children under the age of 10, many of them poor and unsupervised, warned James Alan Fox, a Northeastern University criminologist who joined the effort launched Friday. With an increasing number of children committing murder and other acts of violence, this huge group of teen-agers-to-be poses a serious threat to the nation during the next several years, Fox said.

WILMINGTON MORNING STAR
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PROVIDENCE SUNDAY
JOURNAL

PROVIDENCE, RI
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HEADING OFF A CRIME WAVE

Police say feds should spend on kids

Associated Press

North Carolina police chiefs and prosecutors are joining an effort to lobby the federal government to spend more on children's programs.

Members of new group called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids say it's easier to form a child's character than to reform an adult criminal.

Sanford Newman, president of the group, said Friday he was moved to start the organization

after awaking one night to find an intruder crouching between his bed and his newborn daughter's crib.

Mr. Newman said Fight Crime will form state and local advisory committees and begin recruiting thousands of members and volunteers to move its campaign forward.

Supporters of the effort include North Carolina police chiefs Dennis Nowicki of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Mitchell Brown of Raleigh, Chester Hill of Goldsboro, George

Sweat of Winston-Salem, Sylvester Daughtry Jr. of Greensboro and Jackie McNeil of Durham.

"If we didn't bother to vaccinate kids against polio, we'd have a polio epidemic," said Chief Nowicki. "When we don't bother to invest in the programs that get kids started on the right foot, we get a crime epidemic."

The group noted, for example, that roughly two-thirds of North Carolina children eligible for Head Start were not served by the federal program last year.

Group says it's easier to mold child than to reform criminal

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — It's easier to form a child's character than to reform an adult criminal, says a group created to lobby for more spending on children's programs.

Investing more in these programs could push down the crime rate, which is being inflated by increases in youth violence, according to Sanford Newman, who today announced the formation of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

One of the nonprofit group's top officials is Californian Marc Klaas, who awaits sentencing of the man who killed his 12-year-old daughter, Polly. "We can save thousands of children and adults — and spare their families unimaginable heartbreak — if we invest now in the proven programs that help kids get the right start," Klaas said.

Head Start has proven itself as good for infants and toddlers, the

group said, also praising program designed to prevent child abuse, teach parenting skills, improve schools and provide mentoring and after-school activities.

"There is no substitute for tough law enforcement today. But neither is there any excuse for failing to invest today in proven strategies to prevent crime tomorrow," said Matt Rodriguez, a Chicago policeman and member of the group.

A nationwide survey reveals that most police chiefs agree, the group said. Ninety-two percent of 54 survey respondents said they believed putting more government resources into children's programs would reduce crime.

As its first project, the group will join a panel of experts in criminology, child development and law enforcement to study and make a set of policy recommendations to federal and state officials. The plan to complete a report by the end of September. ■

New group to promote investment in children

■ Spending money today on programs for children can prevent crime tomorrow, says Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

By CASSANDRA BURRELL
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's easier to form a child's character than to reform an adult criminal, says a new group created to lobby the government to spend more on children's programs.

Investing more in these programs could push down the crime rate, which is being inflated by increases in youth violence, according to Sanford Newman, who Friday announced the formation of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

One of the nonprofit group's top officials is Marc Klaas, who is awaiting the sentencing of the man convicted of abducting and killing his 12-year-old daughter, Polly Klaas, in 1993.

The Associated Press (AP) article about **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS** appeared in scores of newspapers across the country.

SAGINAW NEWS

SAGINAW, MI
DAILY 56,728

FRIDAY
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Fight crime early

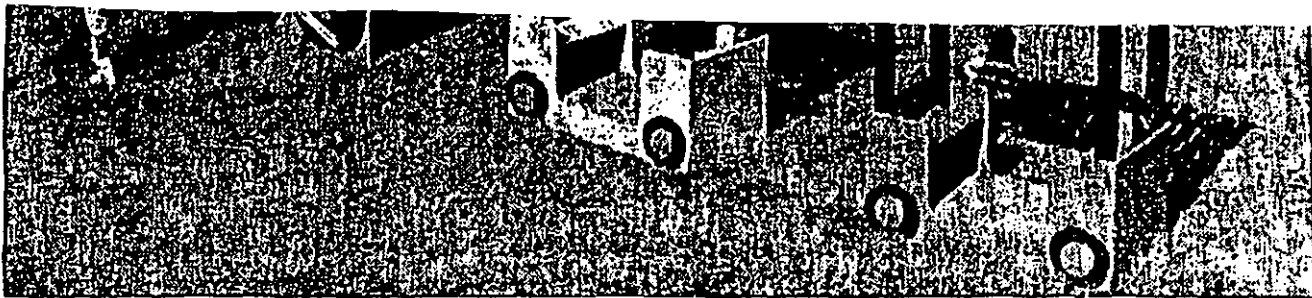
New group says:
Invest in children

By Cassandra Burrell
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's easier to form a child's character than to reform an adult criminal, says a new group created to lobby the government to spend more on children's programs.

Investing more in these programs could push down the crime rate, which is being inflated by increases in youth violence, according to Sanford Newman, who announced the formation of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids on Friday.

One of the nonprofit group's top officials is Marc



25
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SUN TIMES

Studies show that \$1 invested in early childhood services today saves \$7.16 in jail-related costs later.

Invest in kids— or pay the price

When Newsweek magazine asked parents of children under 4 what they fear most for their children's future, more than half of the parents said they fear their child will become the victim of violent crime.

When the Gallup Organization asks the general public what is the most important problem facing the country, crime and violence consistently ranks No. 1.

When Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research asked chiefs of police how to reduce violent crime, more than 90 percent said government ought to invest in programs that help parents and give children a better start on life. That same 90 percent also agreed that if we don't pay now, we'll pay more later in crime, welfare and other costs.

"We've got 39 to 40 million children [age] 10 and under who are entering into the crime-prone years. If everything remains static, we can't build prisons fast enough," said Chicago Police Supt. Matt Rodriguez.

He likens ignoring the problem to the United States being warned in 1935 that Pearl Harbor would be attacked in 1941 and choosing to do nothing about it.

"It's ridiculous to accept [a juvenile crime wave] as inevitable," said Rodriguez.

He joined a host of law enforcement officials and crime victims this week to endorse legislation that would pump more money into early childhood education, high-quality day care, health care for kids and help for struggling parents.

The ad-hoc group, which calls itself Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, cites studies that show \$1 invested in early



■ *Law enforcement officials agree: Programs that give kids a better start help reduce violent crime.*

By Cindy Richards

childhood intervention can save \$7.16 in costs later in jail, justice system and victim expenses. Yet taxpayers urge their legislators to build more prisons or get tough on criminals while complaining about proposals to raise taxes for education or to ensure infants get a good start on life.

Two of the bills pending in Illinois—the ones that would expand funding for subsidized day care and aid to struggling parents—are locked up in the Senate Rules Committee. The other two are expected to have committee hearings next week.

Helping kids may sound like a Mom and apple pie issue, but don't be fooled. Each of these bills has staunch opponents who are targeting the proposals on both moral and financial grounds. Opponents say they are concerned about the content of the preschool curriculum and the lessons it might impart to vulnerable children—those same children who enter school without knowing red from green, let alone being able to spell their own name. Others simply say they want the government to spend less money so middle-class families can live on one income, freeing one parent to stay home with

the kids full time.

That's a great goal, for those two-parent families that choose it and can find a way to afford it. But we no longer live in a one-size-fits-all America.

There are 52,000 children living in substitute care under the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. There are single parents. There are two-parent families in which both need to work. And there are children who need love, support and learning—regardless of the choices their parents make.

Conservatives like to deride the cliché that it takes a village to raise a child—at the same time they pine for the good old days when neighbors looked out for neighbors. Well, the neighbors are looking the other way, and the village is now peopled by the government, like it or not.

Call your state senators and representatives. Tell them to spend your money more wisely, by investing \$1 in children when they're young—so we won't have to spend \$7.16 repairing the damage they do later.

Cindy Richards is deputy editorial page editor of the Sun-Times. E-mail: crichard@suntimes.com

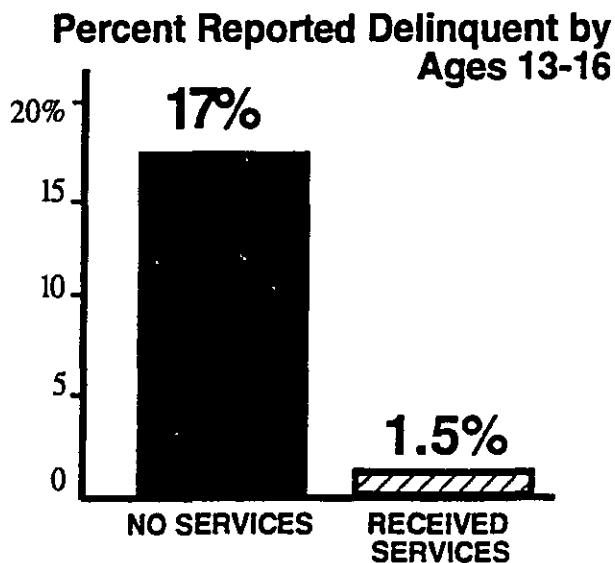
OUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME

Study after study shows that investments in programs to help children and youth get the right start dramatically reduce crime. The most effective strategy is a continuum of investments spanning from birth through adolescence. And even when kids begin to get in trouble, it is clear that effective programs can dramatically reduce the likelihood of recidivism. The following graphs illustrate a few of the leading studies.

Early Childhood Investments Cut Delinquency

Syracuse Family Development Research Program

Parent Training, home visits, early childhood education, health, & other services cut delinquency by 90%.



The Syracuse University Family Development Research Program showed that delinquency was reduced by 91% when families were provided parent training home visits, early childhood education, nutritional, health, safety and other human services beginning prenatally and continuing until children reached elementary school age. Just ten years after the children began elementary school:

- Of those children who had received the services, only one had been charged with serious delinquency, and only 6% had even been reported "ungovernable" to juvenile authorities;
- Among those children who had not received the family development and early childhood services, nearly one in five had already been charged with offenses, including burglary, robbery, assault, and sexual assault. At age 15, nearly one in ten were already "chronic offenders."

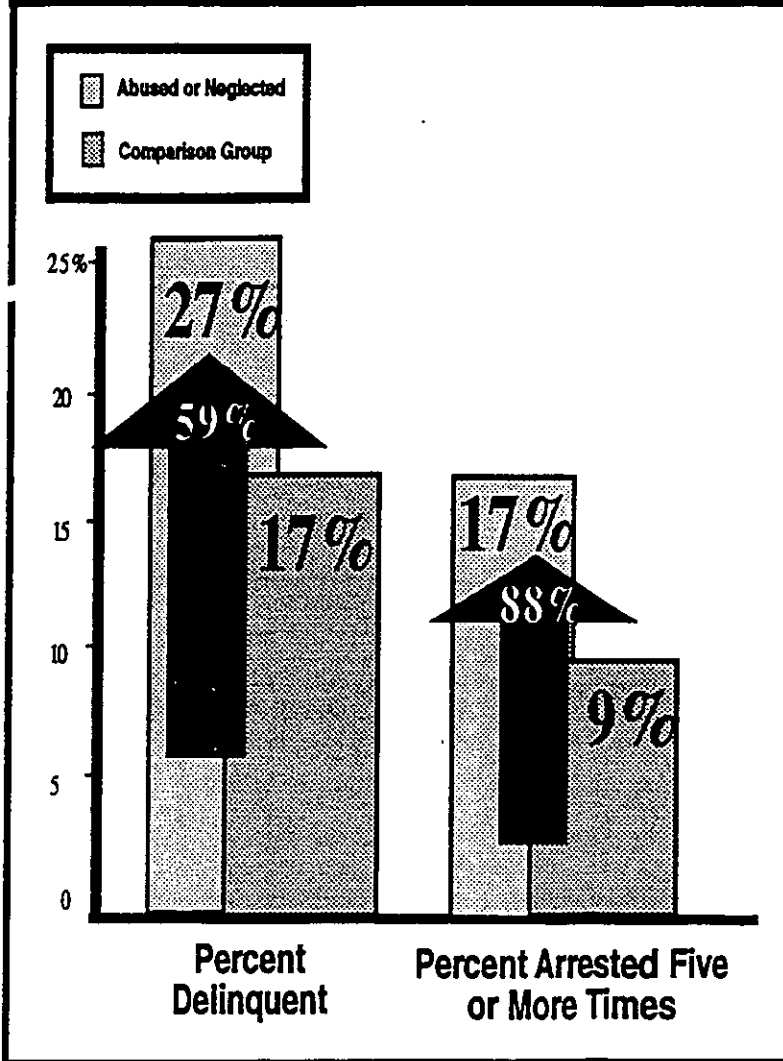
Source: Ronald Lally, Peter L. Mangione, Alice S. Honig, and Donna S. Wittmer, "More Pride Less Delinquency: Findings from the Ten-Year Follow-up Study of the Syracuse University Family Developmental Research Program", in *The Zero to Three Child Care Anthology, 1984-1992*, (Arlington: Zero to Three, 1992), pp. 95-103.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

1-800-245-6476

Home Visiting Programs Cut Abuse and Neglect—and Crime

Abuse & Neglect Dramatically Increase Delinquency and Chronic Criminal Behavior



Source: Michael G. Maxfield and Cathy Spatz Widom; "The Cycle of Violence: Revisited 6 Years Later," *Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* Vol. 150, April 1996; Cathy Spatz Widom, "The Cycle of Violence," National Institute of Justice, October 1992.

In one of the most detailed studies of the issue to date, the National Institute of Justice concluded that being abused or neglected as a child increased the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile, by 59%, as an adult by 27%, and for a violent crime by 29%. Those who had been abused and neglected were nearly twice as likely as a demographically matched comparison group to have been arrested more than five times.¹

Alarming, approximately 3 million children a year experience physical abuse or neglect.

A program sponsored by the University of Rochester Medical School in which nurses visited high-risk mothers at home during pregnancy and for 2 years after birth, cut the rates of abuse and neglect among participants from nearly one child in five among the control group to one in twenty-five, a 75% decline.²

The statewide Healthy Start program in Hawaii screens new mothers at hospitals to identify at-risk families. Families have the option to enroll in a comprehensive services program (about 95% accept) which provides preventive health care, home visits by trained professionals to teach parenting skills and to offer family counseling. Two studies have shown the program cut abuse and neglect by 50-60%.³

¹Michael G. Maxfield and Cathy Spatz Widom, "The Cycle of Violence: Revisited 6 Years Later," *Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, Vol. 150, April, 1996; Cathy Spatz Widom, "The Cycle of Violence," National Institute of Justice, October, 1992.

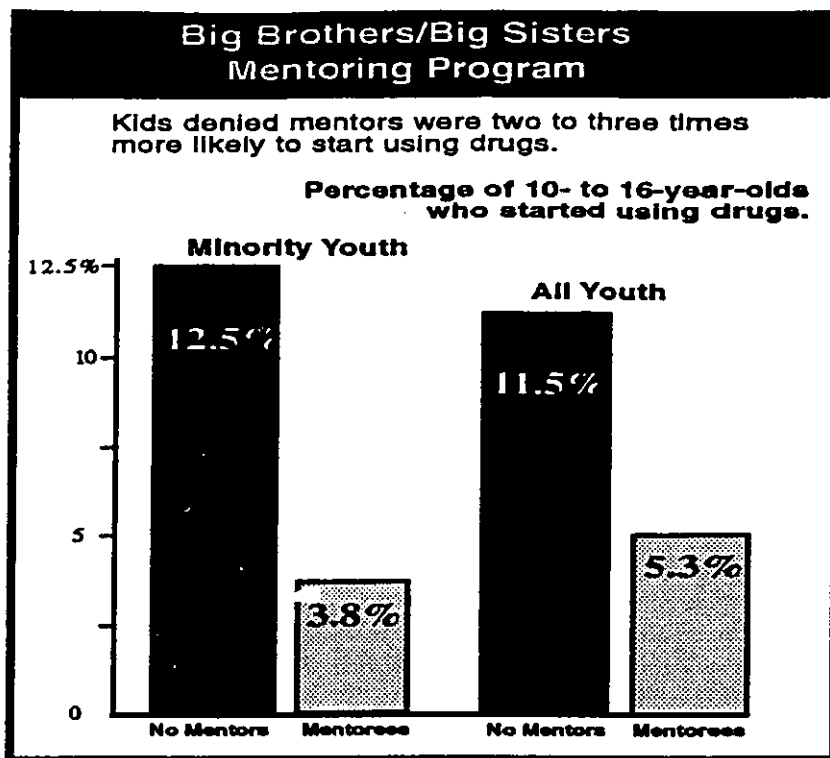
²David L. Olds, Charles R. Henderson, Jr., Robert Chamberlin, and Robert Tatelbaum, "Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: A Randomized Trial of Nurse Home Visitation," *Pediatrics*, Vol. 78, No. 1, July 1986.

³James C. Howell, ed., *Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders*, U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, May 1995.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

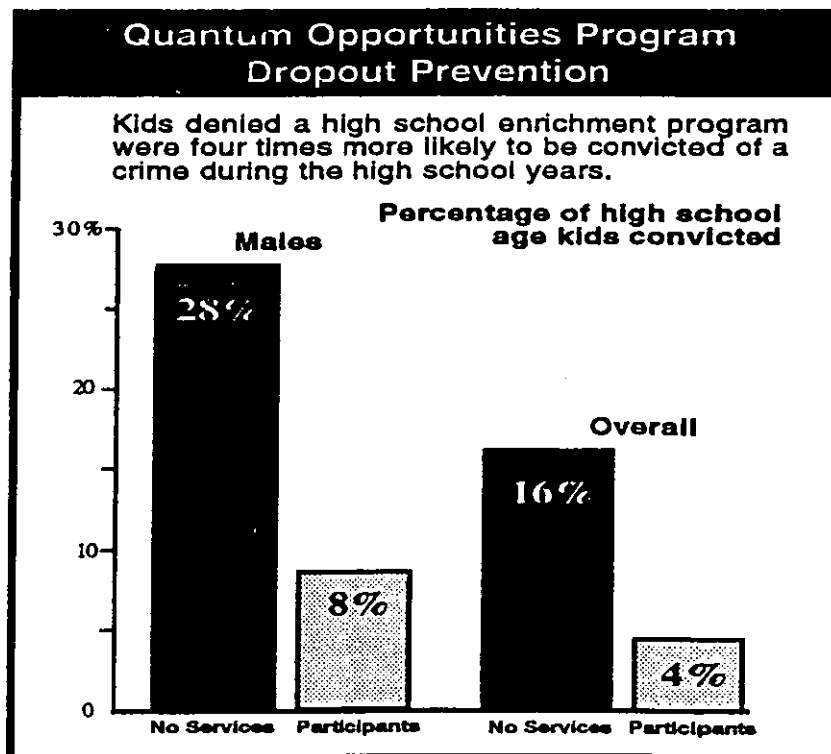
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Quality Mentoring Cuts Teen Drug Use In Half



A Public/Private Ventures study of the impact of Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring program in eight cities showed that young people without mentors were twice as likely to start using drugs. Among minority youth, those without mentors were nearly three times as likely to start using drugs. The study also showed that children without mentors were more likely to start using alcohol, and used hitting as a way to settle disputes twice as often as Little Brothers/Little Sisters.¹

Intensive High School Enrichment Programs Curb Criminal Behavior



In each of five cities, 25 high school level students participated in an intensive dropout prevention program called the Quantum Opportunities Program, which incorporates counseling, academic enhancement, life skills instruction, community service projects and financial incentives. When compared to randomly assigned control groups, QOP participants were just one-quarter as likely to be convicted of a crime, but 50% more likely to graduate high school on time and two and a half times more likely to attend postsecondary schooling.²

¹Joseph P. Tierney and Jean Baldwin Grossman with Nancy L. Resch, "Making A Difference: An Impact Study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters." a Public/Private Ventures research paper, 1995, pp. 31-35. The average age of study participants was 12 years.

²Robert Taggart, *Quantum Opportunity Program*, Philadelphia: Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, 1995, p. 4.

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Chief, Oakland, CA
Darrel W. Stephens
Chief, St. Petersburg, FL
Patrick J. Sullivan, Jr.
Sheriff, Arapahoe Co., CO
Donald H. Warshaw
Chief, Miami, FL
Robert S. Warshaw
Chief, Rochester, NY
Elizabeth M. Watson
Chief, Austin, TX

PROSECUTORS

Ronald Earle
District Atty., Travis Co., TX
Norman S. Early, Jr.
Former D.A., Denver, CO
Jack O'Malley
State's Atty., Cook Co., IL
Ralph C. Martin, II
District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA
Elliot L. Richardson
Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce
Grant Woods
Attorney General, AZ

CRIME SURVIVORS

Frances Davis
Fdr., Mothers of All Children
Eileen Halbert
Vice-Chair, Texas Board of
Criminal Justice
Carole Grant Hall
Director, Ginger Ridge
Residents' Initiative
Marc Klaas
Fdr., Klaas Fdn. for Children
Dennis Lees, Ph.D.
Mgr., Mental Health Clinic
Jean Lewis
President, Parents of
Murdered Children
**Gordon Rondeau &
Elaine Rondeau**
Founders, Action America:
Murder Must End Now

**FIGHT
CRIME**



**INVEST
IN KIDS**

President
Sanford A. Newmar

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimon
Elissa Rumsey

June 5, 1997

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Hatch,

As an organization led by police, prosecutors, and crime survivors, we are determined to see that dangerous criminals are behind bars. But punishment alone will leave us racing on a treadmill, investing more and more in prisons and law enforcement while young people are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up.

We applaud the leadership role you have played on health care for children and child care issues and look forward to working with you to help Americans understand that these are vital crime prevention investments. We hope that as you craft juvenile crime legislation in the days ahead, you'll keep in mind that these and other investments in children and youth, as well as programs that nip delinquency in the bud, are our best long-term strategies to fight crime.

We need to use all our best weapons against crime, especially the proven programs that keep kids from becoming criminals in the first place. For example:

- A Syracuse University study divided at-risk kids between a group that got no special services and a group that received (up to age five) quality child care, health care and home visits by parenting coaches. The result: the kids denied the services were 10 times more likely to be delinquent by their mid-teens.
- The High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool program in Ypsilanti, Michigan randomly assigned at-risk toddlers either to a control group or to a group receiving quality child-care, preventive health care, and a weekly home visit providing coaching for parents. A look at arrest records 22 years later showed that those who had been denied these services were five times more likely to be chronic offenders by age 27.
- A study of Healthy Family Home Visitor Programs, which offer parenting coaches to at-risk first-time mothers (usually unmarried teen moms) has shown that those denied services were between two and five times as likely to abuse or neglect their children. Being abused or neglected doubles the risk that a child will grow up to have five or more arrests by age 20.
- A multitude of studies show that kids are more likely to fail in school and wind up in jail if we fail to treat their health problems —ranging from hearing, visual and nutritional deficiencies to learning disabilities, emotional problems, depression, and aggression.

- The Quantum Opportunities Program has shown that a high school program of counseling, academic and life skills support, community service and financial incentives cut the risk of arrest during the high school years by 50 percent.
- A Public/Private Venture study of the impact of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring program showed that those children denied participation in the program were twice as likely to use hitting as a solution to conflict and twice as likely to start using drugs.

No wonder a national poll of police chiefs conducted by Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research found that **nine out of ten chiefs agreed that "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start [by] fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after school programs and mentoring."** When asked to pick the **"most effective" crime reduction strategy, police chiefs chose "increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" nearly four-to-one over "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."**

Can we afford these investments? Economist Steven Barnett found that High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool Study saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone. Even after subtracting the interest that could have been earned by investing the program's cost in financial markets, the project produced a net savings of \$7.16 — including more than \$6 in crime savings — for every dollar invested. Home visitor programs offering parenting coaching to at-risk parents have been shown to pay for themselves in reduced child protective services costs after four years — and to produce tens of thousands in other savings in the years ahead. Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million.

The most important savings, however, can't be measured in dollars. As Gordon and Elaine Rondeau, whose daughter was strangled in Illinois in 1994, have said: "Our daughter's killers will spend the rest of their lives in jail. But that won't bring Renee back. Wait-for-the-crime, punishment-only approaches will always be too little too late—but we can save thousand of lives if we invest now in the proven programs that help kids become good citizens instead of criminals."

Even when kids get into trouble, we don't have to throw in the towel. The myth that "nothing works" in juvenile rehabilitation has now been clearly refuted.

For example, when the Salt Lake County Juvenile Court randomly assigned some delinquent youths and their families to **eight hours of behavioral family systems counseling, both their recidivism rates and their siblings' chances of becoming delinquent were cut in half.**

Even in many of the more difficult cases, invention programs can be effective. In South Carolina serious and violent juvenile offenders at imminent risk of out-of-home placement were randomly assigned either to normal probation treatment, in which few services were provided, or to an experimental Family And Neighborhood Services (FANS) program. A masters level therapist provided FANS participants with highly individualized family-based and home-based treatment. Fifty-nine weeks after the initial referral, **youths in the FANS program had less than one third the incarceration rates of control group youth (20% vs. 68%) and had half the rate of recidivism.**

The cost per client for the FANS program was about \$2,800. The average cost of institutional placement in South Carolina was more than five times higher — \$16,300.

Hundreds of juveniles are arrested for delinquent acts every day. The majority of these kids come in contact with the juvenile justice system only once. Only about 6% of all juvenile offenders become chronic offenders (five or more police contacts before age 18). But for this group, the first act of delinquency is a warning sign of future delinquency and criminal behavior.

We need to identify these high-risk offenders when they first enter the juvenile justice system. Well-designed risk-assessment tools can successfully identify high-risk offenders—juveniles who are four to five times more likely to reoffend than those identified in the low-risk category. We must give juvenile authorities the resources to provide the behavioral and family treatment, mentoring, and other interventions that have been proven to be so effective in reducing crime.

Since almost all of those arrested as juveniles, even if tried as adults, will eventually be back out on the streets, we need to focus heavily on the most effective strategies to nip delinquency in the bud, and push kids back onto a path of good citizenship.

Few of those who wind up in our prisons were born to be criminals. Their behavior is learned behavior. Shortchanging the investments in proven programs to help kids get the right start shortchanges the public safety, and forces us to fight crime with one hand tied behind our backs. Offering kids the quality child care, health care, after school programs mentoring, and job training they need to become good citizens, and offering their parents the help they need to raise good kids from their youngest years, is just common sense — and self-defense.

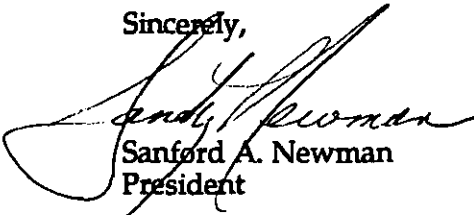
- When denying kids access to quality early childhood programs multiplies their chances of becoming juvenile delinquents and adult criminals, it's just common sense to fully fund Head Start, not only for toddlers, but also for infants.
- When the peak hours of juvenile crime are between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m., it's just common sense to provide after-school programs.
- It's just common sense to see that kids have access to the health care that can prevent physical and mental problems from causing intellectual damage, school failure, anti-social behavior and crime.
- It's just common sense to see that kids have access to the mentoring programs and school enrichment programs proven to reduce violence and crime.
- When we can identify the kids who need treatment to put them back on the right track to becoming good neighbors instead of criminals, it's just common sense to provide the interventions that nip delinquency in the bud.

Experience with Byrne grants and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grants shows that simply lumping crime prevention in as one of the many allowable uses of a block grant won't result in meaningful crime prevention funding. Block grants are often the most effective way to maximize the impact of federal funds, but as former Attorney General Elliot Richardson points out in urging that juvenile crime funding be specifically earmarked for prevention: "The greater the national interest in assuring that a particular objective, like crime prevention, is achieved and the greater the risk that this objective will lose out in the politics of local spending, the more compelling the need for specific conditions on the manner in which federal funds are applied." (You'll recall that Mr. Richardson was a pioneering advocate of block grants during his tenure as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare during the Nixon Administration.)

In short, we believe the public would be poorly served if Congress left out of juvenile crime legislation a commitment to invest in the proven programs that help kids get the right start, and the effective rehabilitation programs like those used in South Carolina's FANS program which have been proven to nip delinquency in the bud.

I'm eager to meet with you to further discuss Fight Crime's views and answer any questions. I'll ask Brendan Fitzsimons in my office to call to see if such a meeting might be possible.

Sincerely,



Sanford A. Newman
President

Attachments:

Illustrative Crime Prevention Studies
Police Chief Poll
Op-Eds

cc: Paul Larkin

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**Police Chiefs Say
More Government Investments in Kids are
Key to Fighting Crime**

Survey Findings

Attached are results from a poll conducted in July 1996 for Fight Crime: Invest In Kids by the Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy Research, under the direction of Professor Jack McDevitt.

The survey sought opinions of 780 police chiefs, including all chiefs from cities with populations over 100,000, and a sample of 288 chiefs from cities of less than 25,000, and 292 chiefs from cities of between 25,000 and 100,000. The response rate was 70% for a total of 548 surveys returned.

More than nine out of ten police chiefs (92%) agreed with the statement "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start" by "fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after school programs and mentoring." These results were strikingly similar regardless of region or city size.

Nine out of ten also agreed that "if America does not pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare, and other costs." Again, these results were nearly identical regardless of city size.

When chiefs were asked to rank the long-term effectiveness of a number of possible crime fighting approaches, "increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" was picked as "most effective" nearly four times as often as either "trying more juveniles as adults" or even "hiring additional police officers."

More detailed results available upon request.



GRAPH 1(A)

Question 1: Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statement: *In the long run, America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start (for example, fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools, and providing after-school programs and mentoring).*

Percent of Departments Nationwide Indicating Agreement/Disagreement

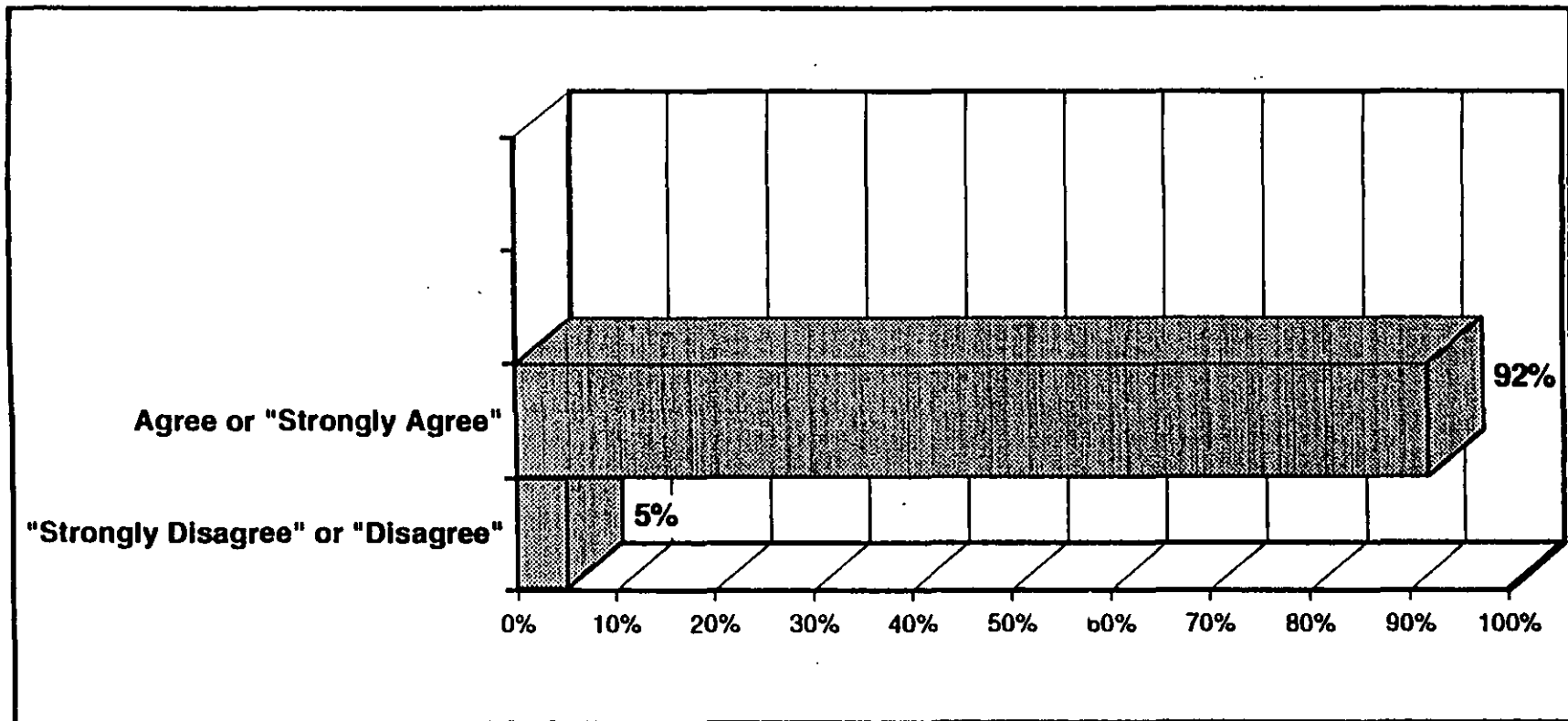


Table 2(A)

Question 2: Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

- A) If America does not pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare, and other costs.**
- B) Greater investment in children and youth may be worthwhile, but will not be valuable as a crime prevention tool.**

View	Size of Community			
	Nationwide %	25,000 and under %	25,001 to 100,000 %	100,001 or more %
A) Invest now or pay far more later	90	88	90	94
B) Perhaps worthwhile but not effective for crime prevention	10	12	10	6
		n=203	n=183	n=154

Table 4(A)

4. Please rank each of the following policies on a scale of 1 to 4, giving a "1" to the policy you think is most effective and a "4" to the policy you think is the least effective according to their long-term effectiveness in reducing crime and violence. (please use each number only once)

- A) Trying more juveniles as adults, and sentencing more juveniles to adult prisons.
- B) Increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start.
- C) Hiring of additional police officers.
- D) Making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.

Percent of departments indicating the following policies are the "most effective"¹³

Policy	Size of Community			
	Nationwide %	25,000 and under %	25,001 - 100,000 %	100,001 or more %
A) Trying more juveniles as adults, and sentencing more juveniles to adult prisons.	16	20 (n=205)	10 (n=184)	12 (n=154)
B) Increasing investment in programs that help all children and youth get a good start.	60	51 (n=206)	67 (n=185)	74 (n=155)
C) Hiring of additional police officers.	17	20 (n=205)	11 (n=185)	17 (n=155)
D) Making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.	26	32 (n=204)	19 (n=186)	18 (n=154)

¹³ Some respondents gave more than one policy a rank of "1." Therefore, not all percentages total exactly 100.