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MEMORANDUM TO ERSKINE BOWLES

From: Jeremy Ben-Ami
      Jake Siewert

Subject: Catalog of Talking Points

We have pressed ahead with developing an on-line electronic catalog of talking points and fact sheets on key policy issues. This on-line service would allow White House staff to access the latest information on issues to help prepare for briefings, speeches, interviews, etc. To this end, we have taken the following steps:

- We have spoken to Jodie Torkelson who will put us in touch with the Librarian, who apparently has the ability to manage such an on-line database on the OASIS system.

- We have prepared the attached list of domestic policy topics that will be included in the initial round. This can be expanded to include other issues from the NEC and other areas at a later date.

- We have prepared a sample of the format for the talking points and fact sheet, on teen pregnancy, that we would propose to use for other topics (attached).

- The two of us have committed to ensuring that the talking points are reviewed and updated as appropriate by the responsible policy analyst. Each issue area will have a designated person who can be reached to ask for further information and asked to update materials as appropriate.

Our hope is, with your approval, and the cooperation of the librarian's office, to have some of this available within the next two weeks. We would do a memo to all White House staff explaining how to access the catalog and reinforce that with an announcement at the Senior Staff meeting.

cc: Carol Rasco
    Mark Gearan
    Jodie Torkelson
    Brian Bailey
ATTACHMENT I -- Initial List of Topics for Talking Points and Fact Sheets

Abortion
Affirmative Action
AIDS
Balanced Budget Amendment
Child Care/Head Start
Child Nutrition/WIC
Civil Rights
Community Development
Crime and Drugs
Disability Policy
Education
Environment
Health Care
Homelessness
Housing
Immigration
Middle Class Bill of Rights
Native Americans
Regulatory Reform
Reinventing Government
School Prayer
Senior Citizens
Teen Pregnancy
Welfare Reform
Women's Issues

Jennifer Klein
Bill Galston
Patsy Fleming
[NEC]
Gaynor McCown
Dorothy Karaynannis
Steve Warnath
Paul Weinstein
Jose Cerda
Diana Fortuna
Gaynor McCown
Brian Burke
Jennifer Klein
Lynn Margherio
Lynn Margherio
Steve Warnath
NEC - currently available
Mike Schmidt
Michael Waldman
Paul Weinstein (w/NPR)
Bill Galston
Lynn Margherio
Janet Abrams
Jeremy Ben-Ami
Jennifer Klein
Teen Pregnancy is a National Epidemic

- This year, more than 1 million women aged 19 and younger -- 10% of all teenage girls -- will become pregnant.

- The U.S. rate of births to teens is now twice as high as in the United Kingdom and six times as high as in France, West Germany, and Denmark.

Out-of-Wedlock Childbearing Is Increasing Dramatically

Perhaps the most troubling aspect of the rise in teen pregnancies has been the dramatic increase in births outside of marriage.

- From the 1950s through the early 1980s, the rate of births to teens declined steadily. Nine years ago, however, the situation took a turn for the worse. Between 1986 and 1991, the teen birth rate rose 24%.

- In 1960, only 15 percent of teenage mothers were unmarried. By 1990, that percentage had increased to 69 percent.

And It's A Problem Facing All Communities

Teen pregnancy rates are soaring in all communities, regardless of race, region and background.

- Out-of-wedlock childbearing has increased greatly among both black and white teens. Births outside of marriage among black teenagers rose from 64% in 1970 to 93% in 1991. For white teens, the percentage of births out of wedlock more than tripled over the same period, from 18% to 59%.
**Behind the Statistics: Children Suffer . . .**

- 80% of children born to unwed teenage mothers who have not completed high school live in poverty. In contrast, of those children born to 20-year-old married parents who are high school graduates, only 8% live in poverty.

- Children of teenage parents are more likely to die in their first years, have a lower I.Q., repeat a grade in school, be victims of abuse and neglect, and become teen parents.

. . . the Mothers Forfeit Opportunities . . .

Children who have children often forfeit important opportunities for their own development and future independence.

- 8 in 10 teenage mothers drop out of high school, and only 56% ever graduate.

. . . and Society Pays

As a nation, we pay heavily to support many teen mothers and their children. Expenditures flow through numerous government programs, including Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Food Stamps, Medicaid, and Social Security Insurance (SSI).

- Taxpayers now spend about $34 billion per year to assist families begun by teenagers.

- 52% of families who receive AFDC benefits were started by teenage mothers.

- More than three-fourths of all teen mothers will be on AFDC at some point during the 5 years following the birth of their child.

While spending on direct assistance is significant, the full cost of out-of-wedlock teen childbearing is much greater. Our society pays dearly as the number of young people born into lives of poverty, dependence, and hopelessness grows.
Addressing the Problem: A National Mobilization

President Clinton has urged Americans from all sectors of national life to join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy.

[Quote from the President on partnership - government can't solve this alone. . .]

Private Sector Involvement . . .

President Clinton recognizes that "government can only do so much" in addressing the serious, complicated issue of teen pregnancy. He is calling on leaders of all fields -- business, sports, entertainment, education, medicine, churches, community organizations, etc. -- to marshal their resources in a campaign which would promote individual responsibility, as well as economic opportunity, for America's youth.

. . .In Partnership with Government

In 1992, the President made the groundbreaking commitment to "end welfare as we know it." He is dedicated to redesigning the current welfare system to motivate teenagers to make responsible choices. The Administration has proposed the following measures:

• that teen mothers continue to live at home or in other supervised settings, that they stay in school or participate in job training, and that they move into employment within a limited period of time

• that child support laws be strictly enforced

• that support be provided to community-based initiatives to prevent teen pregnancy
THE FACTS ABOUT...  

TEEN PREGNANCY

For More Information Call:  
Janet Abrams, 6-2857  
(updated: 2/24/95)

A National Epidemic

• In 1991, more than one million women aged 19 and younger -- 10% of all teenage girls -- became pregnant.

• From the 1950s through the early 1980s, the rate of births to teens decreased steadily. In 1986, that trend reversed, growing 24 percent by 1991.

• The U.S. rate of births to teens is now twice as high as in the United Kingdom and six times as high as in France, West Germany, and Denmark.

Trend towards out-of-wedlock childbearing among teens

• In 1960, only 15% of teenage mothers were unmarried. By 1990, that percentage had increased to 69%.

Crisis affects all communities

• Out-of-wedlock childbearing has increased significantly among both black and white teens. Births outside of marriage among black teenagers rose from 64% in 1970 to 93% in 1991. For white teens, the percentage of births out of wedlock more than tripled over the same period, from 18% to 59%. Two thirds of teenage births are to white mothers.

Costs to the Children

• 80% of children born to unwed teenage mothers who have not completed high school live in poverty. In contrast, of those children born to 20-year-old married parents who are high school graduates, only 8% live in poverty.

• Children of teenage parents are more likely to die in their first years, have a lower I.Q., repeat a grade in school, be victims of abuse and neglect, and become teen parents.
Costs to the mothers

- Eight in ten teen mothers drop out of high school, and only 56% ever graduate.

Costs to society

- Taxpayers now spend about $34 billion per year to assist families begun by teenagers.
- 52% of families who receive AFDC benefits* were started by teenage mothers.
- More than three fourths of all teen mothers will be on AFDC at some point during the 5 years following the birth of their child.

*Note: Aid to Families and Dependent Children (AFDC) is the primary cash-assistance entitlement program funded jointly by the federal and state governments.
MEMORANDUM FOR JEREMY BEN-AMI

From: Erskine Bowles
Date: February 21, 1995
Subject: ELECTRONIC CATALOG OF TALKING POINTS

Thank you for your February 16 memo. I agree that we need to have a central source of current talking points and other communications materials on "hot" issues. Ideally, we should provide this information electronically, so that individuals can access the required materials through their computers.

I ask that you continue to work on this project, along with Jake Siewart of Communications. Please provide Jake with a copy of your earlier memo, and let me know how I can assist the two of you in developing this idea further.

Thank you.

cc: Jake Siewart
    Brian Bailey
TALKING POINTS - TOPICS

Domestic Policy

Abortion
Affirmative Action
AIDS
Child Care-Head Start
Child Nutrition
Civil Rights
Community Development
Crime and Drugs
Disability Policy
Education
Health Care
Homeslessness
Housing
Immigration
Native Americans
Reinventing Government

School Prayer
Teen Pregnancy
Welfare Reform
Women’s Issues

Economy

APEC
Automobiles
Balanced Budget Amendment
Base Closure and Reuse
Budget & Deficit

Business Tax Incentives
China Trade Policy
Community Reinvestment Act
Contract with America
Defense Reinvestment/TRP
Derivatives
District of Columbia
Economy under Clinton
Export Companies
Lowering Trade Barriers -- GATT, NAFTA, CHINA
Middle Class Bill of Rights
Minimum Wage
Rescissions
Small Business
Then and Now -- Economic Fact Sheet

Jennifer Klein/DPC
Bill Galston/DPC
Patsy Fleming/Aids Policy
Gaynor McGowan/DPC
Dorothy Karayannannis/DPC
Stephen Warnath/DPC
Paul Weinstein/DPC
Jose Cerda/DPC
Diana Fortuna/DPC
Gaynor McGown/DPC
Jennifer Klein/DPC
Lynn Margherio/DPC
Lynn Margherio/DPC
Steve Warnath/DPC
Mike Schmidt/DPC
Elaine Kamarck/OVP
Paul Weinstein/DPC
Bill Galston/DPC
Janet Abrams/DPC
Jeremy Ben-Ami/DPC
Jennifer Klein

Bob Fauver
Ellen Seidman
Gene Sperling/NEC
David Lane/NEC
Gene Sperling/NEC
Larry Haas/OMB
Tom Kalil
Kathryn Mack
Paul Dimond/NEC
Gene Sperling
Dorothy Robyn
Ellen Seidman
Heather Ross
Gene Sperling

Bob Kyle/NEC
Gene Sperling/NEC
Gene Sperling/NEC
Gene Sperling/NEC
Peter Yu/NEC
Gene Sperling/NEC
The Environment

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National Performance Review

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National Security

Administration Policy toward Russia
APEC: A Regional Program that Works
Central and Western Europe:
  American Support for Democracy and a Market Orientation
Foreign Aid: A Good Use of U.S. Resources
Free Trade Area of the Americas
Haiti: Democracy Restored
Human Rights: Our Policy and Programs
International Counter Narcotics Program
Military Readiness: An Administration Commitment
NATO Expansion and partnership for Peace
Peace in the Mideast
Peace in Northern Ireland
Promoting Democracy Abroad
Promoting Sustainable Development
Reducing the Nuclear Threat
Response to International Terrorism
Returning Democracy to Cuba
Summit of the Americas: Summary of Agreements
Support for Africa
Support for the Baltics
Support for Peace in Bosnia
Support for the Ukraine and the Former Soviet Union
The U.S. Economic Stake in Mexico
The U.S. Role in International Peacekeeping
U.S.-Japan Trade: Facts, Figures, Policies
U.S.-South Korea: A Partnership that Works
War Powers: The Administration Position

Overview
Endangered species
REGO II reforms

Risk
Takings

Regulatory Reform

Overview
Endangered species
REGO II reforms

Risk
Takings

Michael Waldman/DPC
Brian Johnson/CEQ
Phyllis Anderson/OVP
Brian Johnson/CEQ
Michael Waldman/DPC
Tim Newell/OSTP
Sally Katzen/OIRA
Brian Johnson/CEQ
Michael Waldman/DPC
Science and Technology

Global Climate Change
Information Superhighway (NII)
Technology and Economic Growth
Science Policy
Space Program

Tim Newell/OSTP
Tim Newell/OSTP
Tim Newell/OSTP
Tim Newell/OSTP
Tim Newell/OSTP
"We are a nation of immigrants, but we are also a nation of laws. It is wrong and self-defeating for a nation of immigrants to permit the kind of abuse of our immigration laws that we have seen in recent years, and we must do more to stop it."  
- President Clinton  
1995 State of the Union

**ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION – AN INHERITED PROBLEM**

- This Administration inherited a serious illegal immigration problem as a result of a decade of failed immigration policies.

**THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE THE STRONGEST COMMITMENT TO FIGHTING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IN HISTORY**

- The President’s 1996 budget calls for a $1 billion increase to combat illegal immigration through border control, worksite enforcement, removal of criminal aliens, and assistance to states (and other key initiatives).

**FOUR POINT PLAN**

1. **STRENGTHENING BORDER CONTROL.** The Clinton Administration is doing more at the border to deter illegal immigration than any other administration in history.

   - **Border Personnel** – By the end of 1996, increasing the overall border personnel by 51 percent since 1993, and 60 percent at the Southwest border.

   - **Anti-smuggling** – Will substantially increase resources to combat alien smuggling and seek to negotiate arrangements to ensure assistance of foreign governments on international immigration issues.

2. **PROTECTING AMERICAN JOBS.** Worksite Enforcement and Verification. The Clinton Administration is the first to take strong steps for effective enforcement of employer sanctions and minimum labor standards to address illegal immigration.

   - The Administration is vigorously enforcing the labor and employer sanctions laws against employers who hire illegal aliens for business advantage, and is deporting illegal immigrants, including visa overstayers, who take jobs away from American workers.

   - The Administration is committed to establishing an effective, nondiscriminatory means of verifying the employment authorization of all new employees. The Administration fully supports the Commission on Immigration Reform recommendation of using various techniques for improving workplace verification, including using a new worker social security number to confirm work authorization.