

Family Living

More children imprisoned with adults

Don't allow our young people to be crushed in the push for harsher punishments

By MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Since the beginning of the decade, politicians in all 50 states have been pushing for laws to try more children as adults, even though there is no evidence that being convicted in adult court or sentenced to adult prison is an effective way to reduce youth crime.

The truth is, exposing children to the more hardened criminals in the adult justice system—which lacks the education and psychological treatment available in the juvenile system—not only jeopardizes young offenders' safety but increases the likelihood that they will commit crimes again.

Studies show that those tried as adults

commit new crimes sooner after their release from prison and commit more serious and violent crimes, than those tried as juveniles.

This fall, the U.S. Senate will vote on a bill, S. 10, which could mean more children than ever being thrown into adult jails and prisons.

The House already has passed an equally harsh companion bill, H.R. 3. We must act now to ensure that our children are not trampled in the political rush for harsher punishments against young offenders.

Call your Senators when they are home the month of August to support crucial changes to S. 10.

S. 10 would subject more children to the cruelty of adult jails and prisons. S. 10 would allow juveniles to mix freely with adults as long as there isn't "direct physical contact that provides an opportunity for an adult inmate to physically harm a juvenile." Which is no protection at all. Current law provides for removal of juveniles from adult facilities in most cases and, if not, separation of juveniles from adults by sight and sound.

Tell Congress: It is essential that children who are arrested be housed in juvenile facilities, or at least separated from adults by sight and sound. Juvenile facilities are secure and protect the community from any potential danger; protect children from harassment, propositions, and physical and sexual assault by adult prisoners; and attempt to ensure that the children receive the education, counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation only available in juvenile facilities.

S. 10 allows runaways and truants to be held in correctional facilities—for 10 days, and in some cases even longer. Current law allows the children to be held only in detention facilities, and for shorter periods.

Tell Congress: Children who run away or skip school do not belong in jails and prisons, especially not for indefinite, or lengthy,

periods of time. These children need access to community facilities and services, where there is help and hope for their futures.

Let's not allow children to be tried in adult courts and thrown into adult prison where they will only learn to be better criminals. Instead, let's invest in intervention and prevention on the front end, and do something to stop the flow of guns into our children's communities and homes. And if your children are unfortunate enough to land in court, let's ensure that they get the kind of education and psychological treatment that will help them lead productive lives.

For more information about the BCCC, call 202-628-8787.

Finding extraordinary results for children

Everybody Can Make A Difference

By MARIN WRIGHT EDELMAN

We adults look at the daunting challenge of ensuring that all children are raised to be kind, healthy, intelligent, and moral in an increasingly hostile society and wonder whether we have enough money, education, or time to really make a positive difference in their lives.

From now on, whenever you start doubting whether you, as an individual, have the power to ensure that children are safe, well educated, and morally grounded, tell yourself:

I can ask my social club, employer, sorority, fraternity, or choir to adopt a school or a class.

I can start a homework club, chess club, Scrabble club, or debating team on my block.

I can read to a child in a children's hospital for an hour on two Saturday afternoons a month.

I can walk a neighborhood child whose parents work to school two mornings a week.

I can make sure my children know about the dangers of handguns, refuse to allow a handgun in my home, and urge elected officials to keep handguns out of the hands of young people.

I can hold a yard sale and donate the proceeds to an after-school program.

I can write a letter to the editor about children's issues in my community or meet with my newspaper's editorial board to educate the members about the needs of children in my community.

I can find out about local immunization projects and share the information with parents in my neighborhood or organize a project myself.

I can give one child a music lesson once a week.

I can attend police and community meetings and raise concerns about children's safety.

I can organize a winter coat and shoe drive for children in need or go through my children's toy box with them and donate some toys to another child or shelter.

I can encourage my employer to institute a flex-time policy that encourages employees to attend school-related activities—or start one myself if I am an employer.

I can make sure that there are no toxic materials like lead paint in my home.

I can raise or give money to sponsor a child for a week at camp.

I can buy extra school supplies when I shop with my children and donate them to a shelter or neighborhood school.

I can ask my church or mosque to open the building at night for children in the community who need tutoring.

I can demand that store owners in my neighborhood not sell alcohol or cigarettes to minors.

I can start a bus token drive for students who cannot afford transportation costs to school.

I can have a story hour in my living room every Sunday for neighborhood children.

I can survey my community for abandoned houses, vacant lots, and drug houses that are harmful to children and work to get rid of them.

I can form a library club on my block and escort children to the library once a month.

I can help children on my block create a

neighborhood garden or a container garden.

I can call a radio talk show to speak out on behalf of children and speak the truth to those who spread a message of hate, fear, and prejudice.

I can learn about which elected officials support children's issues and vote for them.

I can organize a summer nutrition program to provide needed meals for hungry children.

I can invite a teenager to accompany me twice a week on my morning run or walk or invite a neighborhood child to accompany my family on a trip to a museum or playground.

Everybody can help produce extraordinary results for children by doing some very ordinary things.

Let's all of us begin thinking of ways that we can make a difference and never accept the notion that we have too little money, time, or education to do so.

Editor's note: Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund, which coordinates the Black Community Crusade for Children, whose mission is to leave no child behind and to ensure every child a healthy, head, fair, safe, and moral start in life.



'Loi, 99 years old' is one of the artworks on display in a collection on art at Portland State University as part of the exhibition "Affirming Women's Traditional Roles: Care Giver and Crone" which opens Thursday and can be seen through Aug. 29 at the university's Smith Memorial Center.

St. Mark Baptist plans revival

All Christians in the greater Portland metropolitan area with a heart for genuine Holy Spirit inspired revival, are invited to join the St. Mark Baptist Church of Portland in a Solemn Assembly of the Saints before God August 24th thru 26th.

The theme for the occasion is "Set A-part To God," Nehemiah 9:1-3. The Reverend Percy Manuel, a senior elder among the elders in Portland and co-pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, will bring a Word from the Lord each of the three evenings.

The assemblies will begin at St. Mark on Sunday, August 24th at 6PM; Monday the 25th and Tuesday the 26th at 7PM. The church is located at 103 NE Morris Street. Rev. Robert Kelley is the pastor.

For more information call (503) 287-7457.

Mt. Olivit sets special meeting

All members of Mt Olivit Baptist Church are invited to participate in an open discussion meeting Sunday Aug. 10 at 5:00 p.m. at Highland Baptist Church, 607 N. E. Alberta.

The meeting is hosted by concerned members support group.



SAFeway
FOOD & DRUG

Look For Your
Safeway Weekly Shopping Guide
In Your Oregonian FOODday
in the Portland Metro Area
...and save more shopping
at Safeway

Enjoy Extra Savings
With The
SAFeway EXTRA In-Store Savings Guide
Available at your Safeway store.

Visit Safeway's Web site at
www.safeway.com

PRICES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1997						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Prices Effective Wednesday August 6, 7am thru Tuesday August 12, Midnight

Items & prices in this ad are available at your local Safeway store. No sales in markets, restaurants or institutions. Sales in retail quantities only. Quantities of some items may be limited and subject to availability. Not responsible for typographical or pictorial errors. We reserve the right to correct all printed errors. ©1997 Safeway Stores, Inc.

SUMMER SALE

Fresh Oregon Grown Fryers

- Thrifty Pack (Washington Fryers sold in Washington)
- First 3
- SAVE up to 61¢ lb.

58¢ lb.

Picked at its Peak
Guaranteed Fresh

EXPIRES 8/12/97 SAFEWAY (S) COUPON

Lucerne Gallon Milk

- 1%, 2%, Non Fat, Dairyland or Skim Supreme
- First 1 with coupon



Lucerne Non Fat PLU #8000
Lucerne 1% PLU #8001
Lucerne 2% PLU #8002
Lucerne Dairyland PLU #8003
Lucerne Skim Supreme PLU #8004

1.25

Sweet Juicy Nectarines

- Grown in California
- SAVE up to 59¢ lb.

39¢ lb.

NOBODY DOES IT BETTER® FOR LESS.