

Family Living

Childwatch

By MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Serving The Community In Instead Of Serving Time

With the number of legal scrapes that Chuck Lewis experienced as a young man growing up in southern California, he could easily have wound up serving a jail term instead of serving his community.

"But God saw fit to give me a chance at a better life," says Chuck, now a sergeant for the Federal Government Printing Office Police in Washington, D.C.

As a boy, Chuck often spent his school days running the streets and his evenings stealing hubcaps and getting into other mischief. Before long he landed in front of a judge whose patience had almost run out but who gave him one more chance.

Chuck packed his bags and headed for the army. There he met people who believed in him and taught him self-discipline. He served in Vietnam and joined the military police, discovering it was far more productive to help young recruits steer clear of trouble than locking them up after they crossed the line. It was a lesson that he's been applying throughout his more than 40 years in law enforcement.

"We have to catch these kids between ages 6 and 13, and make a positive difference in their lives," says Chuck, a member of the Black Police Association and president of the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #2 in D.C. "I've learned that many of the kids who get into trouble are a lot like I was as a kid. Most of the time they just need a second chance, somebody to believe in them. I understand that some young people are violent and need to be separated from the rest of society for a time, but most of them are not violent offenders.

"Everybody seems to be talking about trying more children as adults, but we have to remember that they are still kids. It sure makes more sense to treat them with love and get them involved in something constructive and meaningful before they get into trouble."

Chuck is right. Studies have shown trying children in adult courts does not deter criminal behavior. A new study in Florida, for example, found that those young people tried as adults committed new crimes sooner after their release from prison, and perpetrated more serious and violent crimes than those tried as juveniles. That's because adult courts and adult prison lack the education, counseling, and treatment that help offenders rehabilitate themselves. Rather, adult jails are crime schools where young convicts learn from the worst possible

role models--hardened criminals.

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

The House already has passed an equally harsh companion bill, H.R. 3. We must act now to protect children from being trampled by gutless politicians seeking to prove they are "tough on crime" by voting for harsher punishments against young offenders.

Call your Senators to support crucial changes to S. 10. Tell them that we mustn't allow children to be tried and adult courts and thrown into adult prison where they will only learn to be better criminals; be subjected to harassment, assault, and rape and face increased risk of suicide.

Tell them that we must 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, tell your Senators to make sure children get a juvenile court process and the kind of education and psychological treatment that will help them lead productive lives.

"Not only does imprisonment rob too many youths of a chance for a better life," Chuck says, "but it robs society of the benefit of their potential good."

I will always think of the kind of life I might be leading right now if I didn't get the opportunity to start over."

Zoo Stations Teach "Science Can Be Fun"

Funded by a Grant from Tektronix

Visitors to the Metro Washington Park Zoo can learn science skills and participate in research this summer through a fun, new interactive science program called Zoo Watch. The program, intended to make the zoo an even more exciting place to teach and learn science, is funded by a grant from Tektronix.

At eight Zoo Science Stations, visitors are asked to watch the animals and record their observations on data sheets, which become part of the Zoo's ongoing research. For example, participants record the activity levels of white-cheeked gibbons to help the Zoo determine how these levels change before, during and after construction at an adjacent exhibit. At the elephant exhibit, participants are recording Me-Tu's behavior in order to chronicle changes in her socialization patterns as she matures.

During the summer, volunteer

ZooTeens are engaging visitors, inviting them to observe the animal and helping participants record their observations. The stations will become self-guided this fall, when school groups will participate during field trips. A full curriculum has been developed for teachers to use with their students.

Although the stations focus on studying animal behavior, their larger learning objective is to give students an understanding of, and practice in, the scientific process.

"This kind of science education, which combines learning with children's natural curiosity, can spark a love for science at an early age," said Jill Kirk, Tektronix Director of Community Affairs.

The Tektronix Foundation, which donated \$90,000 to the program, is committed to funding innovative science education programs for kindergarten through post-graduate-level students.

Marketing VP David Olsen Honored by Ad Age

Product Innovation
and Marketing Savvy
Brings Success To
Drypers Corporation

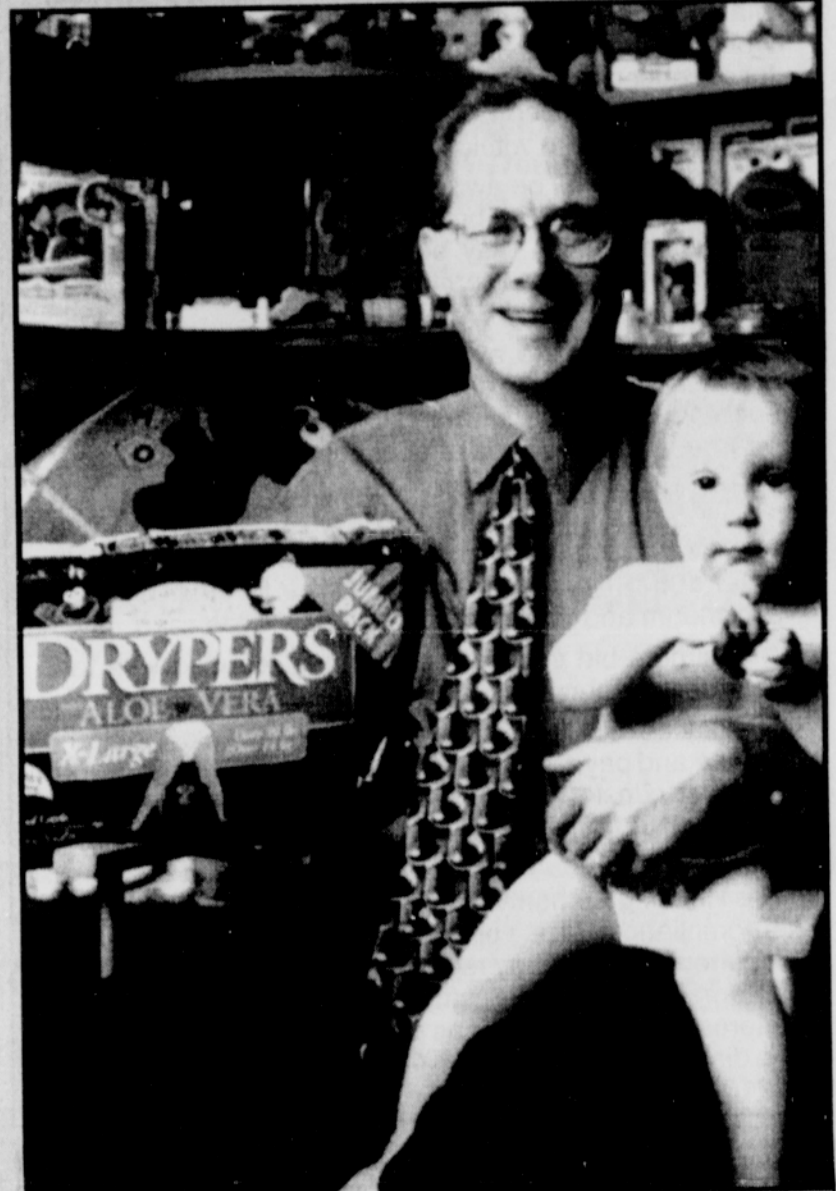
Staying ahead of the game in the fiercely competitive diaper category has led to success and honors for Drypers Corp. By using ingenious marketing tactics and product innovation instead of million dollar advertising budgets to win the diaper wars, Drypers and its Marketing Vice President David Olsen were recently named to Advertising Age magazine's "Top Marketing 100" list.

The Drypers marketing team was recognized for a series of product innovations and marketing initiatives, most recently, the launch of the first ever diaper and training pant line with soothing aloe vera and soft, breathable backsheet. Last year the company introduced the first diaper with odor-absorbing baking soda. Over the past few years Drypers' product development team has led the way in product innovation, beating the competition to market with both baking soda and aloe vera.

The aloe vera launch was highlighted with a category exclusive licensing agreement with the Children's Television Workshop (CTW), bringing popular Sesame Street characters like Big Bird, Elmo, Oscar the Grouch and others prominently to the packaging, diaper frontal tape and training pant cover.

Commenting on the award, Olsen said, "it's an honor for Drypers to be put in the spotlight as a top marketer. But for us, it's just the "Drypers Way" - where marketing, product development and manufacturing all work together to produce a quality, value-added product."

Customers have registered their approval of Drypers' innovations. The company recently released sec-



ond quarter 1997 results showing a 37.4 percent net sales increase from the same period in 1996.

The "Marketing 100," now in its sixth year, salutes those marketers whose ideas have built some of today's strongest brands in various industries. Product sales, company market share, as well as trend-setting ad campaigns and promotions and spending patterns are used as gauges in selecting Ad Age's "Marketing 100." Olsen's selection ranks him among colleagues from such major corporations as The Minute Maid Company, General Mills, Tyco Preschool (Tickle Me Elmo) and

Nintendo.

Drypers Corporation manufactures and markets disposable baby diapers and related products under the Drypers and other brand names. The Company's products are sold through grocery stores and mass merchants throughout the United States, Latin America and other international markets.

The Company also produces other branded and private label diapers and related products.

Drypers Corporation is traded on the NASDAQ Small-Cap Stock Exchange as DYPR.

Birth Announcements

Baby's Name:
Jada Ann Salmon and
Jodan Marie Salmon
(Twins)
Date of Birth: August 18,
1997

Sex: F.
Mother's Name:
Shalonda Monique Miller
Father's Name:
Steven Andrew Salmon
All of NE Portland, OR.
Weight: 1 lb 5 1/2oz
Length: 13 inches and 12
inches.

Baby Name:
Noah Matthew Ratliff
Sex: Male
Date of Birth: July 26,
1997

Mother's Name:
Brenda Denise Ratliff
Father's Name:
Samuel Christopher
Ratliff
All of Portland, OR.



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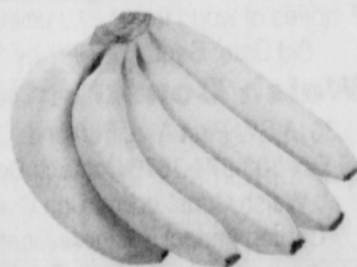
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