

Jan. 12 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 2000

to raise a strong family while you're doing it. That's what today is all about.

And if there is anything that America ought to be about in the 21st century, it ought to be about finally really creating opportunity for all, a responsible nation of all citizens, and a community in which everyone has the chance to do the most important work of all: raise strong, healthy, happy children.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:45 p.m. in the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre at George Wash-

ington University. In his remarks, he referred to Jessica Cupp, who introduced the President, her husband, Tommy, and their triplets Sarah, Maggie, and Aliza; Senator Joseph I. Lieberman, founder, New Democrat Network; Stephen J. Trachtenberg, president, George Washington University, and his wife, Francine Zorn Trachtenberg; William Marshall, president and founder, Progressive Policy Institute; Eli Segal, president, Welfare to Work Partnership; and Al From, president, Democratic Leadership Council.

Statement on the Death of Tom Foerster

January 12, 2000

Hillary and I were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Tom Foerster, who for 40 years served the people of Allegheny County with pride, distinction, and most of all, compassion. Tom's years in office, a record 28 of them as Allegheny County commissioner, should serve as an example to everyone of what a public servant ought to be.

Throughout his long political career, Tom always put the needs of the people of Allegheny County first. I was particularly pleased that last year Tom decided to return to politics and was victorious in his race for a seat on the Allegheny County Council.

Hillary and I extend our deepest sympathies to his wife, Georgeann, and to his family.

Remarks at Boricua College in Brooklyn, New York

January 13, 2000

Thank you. You know, I have to tell you, I was sitting here listening to all the previous speakers and looking at the people in the audience, feeling very grateful for how good Brooklyn's been to me over the years, and thinking, you know, this is why I ran for President; these are the people that deserve help, a hand up, a chance to work together and to live their dreams.

Enealia Nau, thank you for your wonderful words. Thank you for the power of your example. Thank you for the kind things you said about my wife, who, I should tell you, has been involved, as I was, for now over 15 years in these kind of endeavors. We brought a small development bank to our State, modeled on the South Shore Bank in Chicago, which did so much to revitalize difficult neighborhoods there.

We started a microlending program, and we're now spreading microlending all across America. And last year we made 2 million loans in poor villages in Latin America and Africa and Asia, as well, to help people everywhere—[inaudible].

I always like to come to New York and give my wife a plug. I thought she was going to run for office here, but after "David Letterman" last night, she may be trying to get his job instead. [Laughter] I sat there, and I said, "You know, I thought I was supposed to be the funny one in this family." [Laughter]

I want to thank Aida Alvarez for the wonderful job she's doing. She's the first Puerto Rican American ever to serve in a President's Cabinet, and she's doing quite—[inaudible]. And I want to thank our HUD Deputy Secretary, Saul Ramirez, who has already been acknowledged. But