

leadership and committed international assistance achieved great results in Chernobyl. I urge Ukraine to stay on the path of reform it set out upon last year. Former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt once noted that “it is only through strife, through hard and dangerous endeavor, that we shall ultimately win the goal of true national greatness.”

I firmly believe that Ukraine’s national greatness rests in Europe and in its transatlantic and global ties. The United States stands ready to work with Ukraine as it undertakes the political and economic reforms necessary to build these ties that are so vital to the brighter future Ukrainians seek for themselves and their children.

### Statement on House of Representatives Action on Legislation Regarding Unborn Victims of Violence

*April 26, 2001*

America’s children represent our greatest hope for the future. I commend the House for its bipartisan passing of the “Unborn Victims of Violence Act,” which will make it a separate felony to harm an unborn

child in the course of committing any one of 68 Federal offenses. This legislation affirms our commitment to a culture of life, which welcomes and protects children.

### Remarks at a Celebration of Reading in Houston, Texas

*April 26, 2001*

*The President.* Thank you all very much. Thank you very much. Laura and I are really glad to be back in Texas. [Laughter] I didn’t realize, Dad, until I saw that video, how different your life has been since I’m the President and you’re not. [Laughter] Sounds like it’s been pretty rough. And perhaps you and I should sit down and have a discussion, talk about it. Let me think: I have an opening the 27th of September. [Laughter]

We have some other family issues to discuss, like where to put my Presidential Library. [Laughter] I’ve decided not to go through the hassle of raising money. And so, you know my dad’s library? We’re just going to add “And Son.” [Laughter] As you can already tell, lately my dad has been calling me “43.” I call him “41.” It’s kind of shorthand we have in our family. And

we have a nickname for Mother as well. To show you where she stands in the power structure of this family, we call her “Number One.” [Laughter]

And so I’m going to turn the stage back to Number One, and then close the program with some remarks of my own. It’s really great to be back in Houston and to return bearing the proudest title ever been given to me: Son of Barbara and George Bush.

[At this point, the program proceeded.]

*The President.* Well, thank you. Thank you, Laura. Once again, thank you all for that warm welcome. I know all of you join me in thanking the authors for being here tonight. The readings were fantastic, and we appreciate it.

You’ve certainly set a high standard for a little reading I intend to do tonight.