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lence going up so much among young people in our country? Violence begets violence, begets violence, begets violence. It has to end somewhere.

And if you watched President Aristide back in Haiti, perhaps the most gripping thing was when he stood there having had many of his friends killed, having had children that he tried to help, terrorized, standing there saying to the masses of his people: ''No to violence, no to retribution. Yes to peace; yes to reconciliation.'' And if they are saying that inside their heart, that will do more than any law.

So I say to you, as your principal said, we've done some tough things to try to give you a bright future. And we're not ashamed of them; we're proud of them. If we can think of other things to do, we will do them as well. But in the end what you say inside is even more important. You must say no to guns, no to gangs, no to drugs; yes to education, yes to hope, yes to your own future.

The 21st century can be the best time this country and this State ever knew because of all of you, because of our diversity, because in a global society we will be the great global nation, because everybody can be an American. You don't have to be of a certain race or ethnic background or religious conviction. You just have to come here and share our land and share our values and make the most of your own life. That is what you have to do.

But in the end you will have to do it. So I say to you, I'm proud to sign this order to give you the chance to say yes to your future. And I hope and pray you will do it.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:11 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Carlmont High School principal Michael Johnson, Mayor Pam Rianda of Belmont, CA, and Mayor Tom Davids of San Carlos, CA. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks. The memorandum on implementation of safe schools legislation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 25.

Statement on Safe Schools Legislation

October 22, 1994

The single most important thing we can do to improve education for everybody in this country is to make schools safe. Violence against young people is a terrible national problem.

Every other day, enough young people to fill a classroom are killed with guns. In California alone, two children are killed with guns every single day. We have got to put an end to this madness. And the first thing we need to do is to get those guns out of the hands of young people where they don't belong.

The crime law makes it a Federal crime for a minor to carry a handgun except when supervised by an adult. Goals 2000 set a national standard for school safety and requires school districts to take the measures necessary to reach that standard.

The elementary and secondary education act (ESEA) takes it a step further by making it clear that we simply cannot tolerate guns in our schools, and anyone who brings a gun to school just doesn't belong there.

ESEA requires that States adopt a simple law: If somebody brings a gun to school, they'll be expelled for one year.

This is common sense: There should be zero tolerance for guns in school. That's why I am directing the Secretary of Education to withhold funding to States that do not comply with this law.

It's really very simple: Young students should not have to live in fear of young criminals who carry guns instead of books.

Remarks at a Dinner Honoring Kathleen Brown in San Francisco, California

October 22, 1994

The President. Thank you so much. I'm just curious, can you hear me in the back of the room? [*Applause*] Good.

I was listening to Kathleen give that speech——