

14 February 1978

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I am writing to acknowledge your kind letter of February 7 enclosing a copy of one you wrote to Mr. Healey on February 6. I will of course make sure that Mrs. Thatcher sees the correspondence as soon as possible.

I think we need to do something for the people who are looking after the children for whom they are responsible. The fact that child benefit is paid to the state is not the answer. We must look to the children for whom they are responsible and see how we can help them.

Richard Ryder
Private Office

C. P. Dixon, Esq.

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23 February 1978

Mrs. Thatcher has reacted to the attached from Peter Dixon from the General Synod with a note as follows:

"I think we need advice from Geoffrey Howe. The fact is that the larger the child benefit, the more people look to the State to support the children for whom they are responsible and whom they brought into the world."

Could you advise, please.

A.

Adam Butler MP
Parliamentary Private
Secretary

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP