

PRIME MINISTER

DINNER IN HONOUR OF THE NSPCC

At the Duke of Westminster's request, you are giving another dinner for the NSPCC tomorrow night.

The list of those attending is at **Flag A**. The numbers come to 61. You, Mr. Thatcher and the Duke of Westminster, will be receiving the guests in the Blue Drawing Room from 1945. If you agree, a NSPCC photographer ~~will once again be present~~ to take photographs of the guests as they arrive, at the pre-dinner drinks, and a couple of shots at the top table before the meal.

At the end of the dinner you will propose the Loyal Toast, say a few words, and then the Duke of Westminster will reply. You will not wish to make a prepared speech. The NSPCC have ~~however provided some notes for your guidance~~ at **Flag B**. You may also be interested to glance through the speech you gave to the NSPCC in May 1984 (**Flag C**), and I have summarised the main points at the front.

The caterers will provide after dinner drinks if necessary.

The seating plan for your approval is attached at **Flag D**.

A briefing note from DHSS is also attached. (**Flag E**).

Agree:

- i) the seating plan at Flag D;
- ii) that a NSPCC photographer should take pictures of the guests before dinner, and one or two of the top table?

MZA

(Mark Addison)

22 January 1986

2nd REVISE

PRIME MINISTER

D His Grace The Duke of Westminster

Mr. G.M. Ronson

Mrs. Ronson

Her Grace The Duchess of Westminster

Mr. Walter MacDonald

MR. DENIS THATCHER

Lady Holland-Martin

Mrs. MacDonald

Sir John Milne

Lady Porter

Mrs. Maxwell

Sir Philip Harris

Mrs. Halpern

Mr. Frank Cahouet

Mr. Geoffrey Leigh

Mrs. Alliance

Sir Maurice Laing

Lady Milne

Lady Harris

Mr. E.M. Davidson

Mrs. Weinberg

Mr. Ralph Halpern

Mr. Leonard Sainer

Miss Wendy Harris

Mr. Jocelyn Stevens

Mrs. Lipton

Mrs. Sarah Ronson

Mr. David Alliance

Mrs. Paul

Mr. Mark Weinberg

Sir Jack Lyons

Mrs. Leigh

Sir Terence Conran

Mrs. Vivien Duffield

Mrs. Susan Bernerd

Mr. Robert Maxwell

Lady Laing

Sir Leslie Porter

Mr. Ernest Saunders

Lady Lyons

Mr. Anthony Behar

Lady Conran

Mrs. Davidson

Mr. George Tsavlis

Mrs. Cahouet

Mr. Swraj Paul

Mr. Peter Tavoulareas

Mrs. Saunders

Dr. Alan Gilmour

Lady Cohen

Miss Trevania Dudley

Mr. Barrie Clarke

Mrs. Clarke

Mr. Mark Addison

Mr. Gerald Lipton Mrs. Behar

ENTRANCE

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NSPCC DINNER

10 Downing Street

23rd January 1986

NOTES FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

1. It is a serious indictment on modern society that the NSPCC is still needed today as much as it was when it was founded 101 years ago. In its first 100 years, the Society has helped 9 million children.
2. 1984 - the Centenary year of the NSPCC - was the occasion when it was necessary to launch a major fund-raising drive for £12 million. The funds were desperately needed to give financial stability to the Society so that it could continue its vital work.
3. The appeal, under the Chairmanship of His Grace, the Duke of Westminster, was certainly successful in financial terms. It was also successful in increasing the public's awareness of the NSPCC and its work.
4. Child abuse horrifies everyone. Thanks to the efforts of the NSPCC and the local authorities, experts are available to help prevent, wherever humanly possible, the abuse of defenceless children.
5. The interplay of voluntary and public sectors in the case of child abuse provides an excellent example of how both sectors of society can fulfil complementary roles for the eventual betterment of society.
6. The voluntary sector is aided by central and local government in varying degrees. However the true enrichment of the voluntary sector comes from the dedicated support of so many individuals. That support is provided in terms of voluntary labour and/or voluntary financial contributions.
7. The corporate sector is becoming increasingly aware of its responsibilities within the community. Many companies do support the voluntary sector and resources are being deployed both in cash and seconded manpower terms. Evidence of the latter can be seen by the increasing number of companies who are joining "Business in the Community".
8. Another issue being debated is whether companies might be prepared to allocate regularly a small percentage of pre-tax profit to support the voluntary sector.
9. Most successful companies are active in support of the voluntary sector and, as was demonstrated in the NSPCC Centenary Year, a great number of them care about the issue of child abuse and the vital role of the NSPCC.

10. Those of you who have come here tonight have clearly demonstrated your concern that the NSPCC must be allowed to continue its work. For this I know the Chairman and the Director of the Society are profoundly grateful.

11. Social problems cannot be solved by Government alone. They need to be tackled by many caring people from all parts of the community.

Concern without action is not enough. Without private and corporate action, the NSPCC will not be able to maintain its service to the most defenceless members of society - our children.

The NSPCC Royal Charter of 1895 states:

- * To prevent the public and private wrongs of children and the corruption of their morals;
- * To take action for the enforcement of laws for their protection;
- * To provide and maintain an organisation for the above objects;
- * To do all other such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

Please remember the NSPCC - "for the sake of the children".

SYNOPSIS OF 1984 SPEECH

- i) The need to protect children is as strong as it ever was. (NB Recent events have shown how serious is the continuing problem of child abuse and cruelty, and how strong is the public response to it.)
- ii) The NSPCC developed from the growth of the voluntary spirit in the 19th century, with its tradition of giving, and its acknowledgement that individuals can and should take personal responsibility for setting wrongs to right.
- iii) Cruelty of any kind is an affront to civilised values. But cruelty to children, which so often takes place within the family itself, is a special horror, and a betrayal of trust. The pressures of modern life can be overwhelming, and cruelty can breed cruelty. But innocent children will always touch a special chord in our hearts.
- iv) The NSPCC emphasises, rightly, prevention, understanding, and helping us to relearn what it means to be a good neighbour.
- v) Voluntary help has a special quality; it is often inspired by a simple generosity of spirit. In conjunction with expert professionals, and support from Government, the NSPCC has forged a mighty combination to tackle the problem of child cruelty.
- vi) Government is glad to support the work of the NSPCC. DHSS support both specific projects and contribute towards NSPCC HQ costs.



And I should like to

thank ~~you~~ ^{you} for

your ~~chair~~ ^{chair} for your
unparalleled leadership for the last
25 years for you with for
me ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~past~~ ^{past}
years of our ~~country~~ ^{country} 37
years ago.

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NOTE ON THE NSPCC FOR NO 10

Historical Background

The Society was formed in 1884 at a time when there were no child protection laws. Nowadays local authorities, through their social services departments, have the statutory duty of safeguarding the welfare of children. The NSPCC has co-operated with local authorities in the setting up of procedural guidelines, child abuse registers and case conferences. The Society has set up Special Units around the country jointly funded with local authorities, which provide a valuable specialist resource in the localities where they operate.

Fieldwork Organisation

The NSPCC has 300 social work staff. The Society is currently re-organising its fieldwork staff to set up a network of 60 Child Protection Teams. These teams will work closely with local authority social services departments. The Society is the only non-statutory organisation to have the power to take care proceedings.

Heidi Koseda case

Heidi Koseda was found dead in her home in Hillingdon in January 1985. It came to light, during subsequent police investigations, that an NSPCC inspector had falsified his records. The inspector was dismissed and the Society set up an internal inquiry. The Society has since taken action to strengthen its management structure and supervisory procedures.

Grant aid from the DHSS

Over recent years, financial support has been given in two main areas, to support specific projects, and to contribute towards headquarters administration costs. Grants have been made to support the special units mentioned above. Currently, agreed grants are:-

- (a) Towards the cost of seconding its fieldwork staff for social work qualifying courses.

£35,000 for each of 3 years 1983/84 to 1985/86. The Society have just applied for a renewal of this grant and the DHSS is arranging a meeting with the NSPCC to discuss the application.

- (b) Towards NSPCC HQ administration expenses.

£501,000 over 3 years; 1984/85 to 1986/87. This grant was announced in a speech made by the Prime Minister on 16 May 1984.

PMC1

SPEECH TO THE N.S.P.C.C.

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 1984

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS, YOUR GRACE, MY LORDS, LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN.

A CENTENARY IS A VERY SPECIAL SORT OF BIRTHDAY.

AND THE CENTENARY OF THE NSPCC IS BOTH A
HAPPY AND A SOLEMN OCCASION.

- IT IS HAPPY, BECAUSE TODAY WE CELEBRATE
100 YEARS OF VOLUNTARY EFFORT AND 100 YEARS
OF MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENTS.
- IT IS SOLEMN BECAUSE THE NEED FOR A
SOCIETY TO PREVENT CRUELTY TO CHILDREN
IS AS PRESSING NOW AS IT EVER WAS.

/ THERE HAS

THERE HAS AFTER ALL BEEN CRUELTY TO CHILDREN FOR
THOUSANDS OF YEARS.

IN OUR OWN COUNTRY REMARKABLE PROGRESS WAS
MADE UNDER ELIZABETH I, INCLUDING THE
INTRODUCTION OF DISCRETIONARY POOR RELIEF
FOR FAMILIES IN NEED.

BUT HIDEOUS PRACTICES PREVAILED RIGHT UP
TO THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

WHY DID IT TAKE UNTIL 1883 TO FOUND A NATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
CHILDREN?

/ AND WHY,

AND WHY, DESPITE 100 YEARS OF DEVOTED WORK BY THE
SOCIETY, AND 100 YEARS OF MATERIAL PROGRESS,
DO WE NEED TO RAISE A FURTHER £20 MILLION
THIS YEAR TO PREVENT ABUSE OF THE MOST
INNOCENT AND DEFENCELESS MEMBERS OF SOCIETY?

REMEMBER FOR A MOMENT THE SPIRIT OF THE NSPCC'S EARLY
YEARS.

ALONGSIDE THE EMERGENCE OF NEW INDUSTRIES,
THE NINETEENTH CENTURY SAW THE BIRTH OF A NEW
KIND OF PRACTICAL CONSCIENCE,

INSPIRED BY RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, MEN AND WOMEN
OF INFLUENCE SAW IT AS THEIR DUTY TO USE THEIR
NEW FOUND WEALTH TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERING OF
OTHERS.

/ THESE IDEALS

THESE IDEALS FOUND AN ECHO IN THE HEARTS OF MANY PEOPLE.

SOME GAVE MONEY, AND SOME GAVE TIME, TO THE
GREAT VOLUNTARY MOVEMENTS OF THE AGE.

A SPIRIT OF SELF-HELP AND MUTUAL AID BROUGHT
PRACTICAL SUPPORT TO THE DISADVANTAGED,
AND A SENSE OF PERSONAL FULFILMENT FOR THOSE
WHO TOOK PART.

ATTENTION FOCUSSED FIRST ON THE ADULT WORLD: THE
ABOLITION OF SLAVERY, AND THE IMPROVEMENT
OF CONDITIONS IN FACTORIES AND TOWNS.

THEN AT LAST CAME THE TURN OF THE CHILDREN.

/ IT WAS IN

IT WAS IN THE 1870S THAT WE FIRST BEGAN TO LEGISLATE
SERIOUSLY ABOUT PUBLIC EDUCATION.

AND IT WAS IN THE SAME PERIOD THAT THE
LEGISLATIVE ATTACK ON CHILD LABOUR GATHERED
PACE.

THE FOUNDERS OF THE MOVEMENT SET TO WORK PERSUADING
PARLIAMENT TO LEGISLATE ON ALL FORMS OF CHILD
ABUSE.

WHEN THEY STARTED, THERE WERE MORE LAWS TO
PROTECT ANIMALS THAN THERE WERE TO PROTECT
CHILDREN.

BY LOBBYING AND CAJOLING, AND BY APPEALING
TO THE MORAL PRINCIPLES OF THE LEGISLATORS,

/ THEY FINALLY

THEY FINALLY BROUGHT ABOUT THE FIRST CHILD
PROTECTION LEGISLATION - THE CHILDREN'S
CHARTER OF 1889.

THE FULL TITLE OF THE CHILDREN'S CHARTER WAS "AN ACT
FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO, AND BETTER
PROTECTION OF, CHILDREN."

THUS, FIVE YEARS AFTER OUR SOCIETY WAS FOUNDED,
ITS VERY NAME HAD BEEN REPRODUCED IN AN ACT
OF PARLIAMENT.

WHAT A MARVELLOUS ACHIEVEMENT.

/ IT WAS AN

IT WAS AN ACHIEVEMENT WHICH OWED MUCH TO TWO IDEAS.

FIRST THAT SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE:

SECOND THAT WE HAD A PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

TO DO IT - WE COULDN'T JUST LEAVE IT TO OTHERS,

OR TO THE STATE.

AND SO BEGAN THE NSPCC.

YOUR SURVIVAL - YOUR GROWING STRENGTH - IS

EVIDENCE THAT THIS VEIN OF SELFLESS CONCERN

FOR OTHERS RUNS AS STRONGLY THROUGH OUR

SOCIETY NOW AS IT DID THEN.

/ AND DESPITE

AND DESPITE THE ENORMOUS IMPROVEMENT IN MATERIAL
CONDITIONS, TODAY WE NEED THAT SPIRIT - THAT
SPECIAL CONCERN WITH THE QUALITY OF HUMAN
RELATIONSHIPS - JUST AS MUCH AS WE EVER DID.
BECAUSE BEHIND ALL THE STATISTICS - BEHIND
THE BILLIONS OF POUNDS SPENT IN PROVIDING
PRACTICAL SUPPORT FOR OUR FELLOW CITIZENS -
LIES THE REAL WORLD OF THE CHILD AND THE
FAMILY.

OF COURSE POVERTY MATTERS.

OF COURSE JOB INSECURITY AND JOB LOSSES MATTER.
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN
IT IS THE FAMILY, AND RELATIONS WITHIN THE
FAMILY THAT COUNT THE MOST.

/ IN THIS

IN THIS COUNTRY, FAMILY LIFE IS RIGHTLY TREASURED

AND THE MAJORITY OF CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE

LAND ENJOY A SECURE AND LOVING HOME.

THROUGH THEIR CLOSE FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS SUCH

CHILDREN DEVELOP INTO MATURE AND HAPPY YOUNG

PEOPLE.

OTHER FAMILIES FACE TENSIONS AND STRESS WHICH ARE OF

CONCERN TO US ALL.

AND SOME OF THE SUPPORT WHICH USED TO BE AVAILABLE MAY

NO LONGER BE THERE.

WHERE ONCE THERE WERE SEVERAL GENERATIONS OF

THE FAMILY AT HOME TO SHARE THE TASK OF CARING

FOR THE CHILDREN, AND SEVERAL PEOPLE WITH THE

/ TIME TO AMUSE

TIME TO AMUSE THEM, NOW A YOUNG MOTHER MAY
FIND HERSELF ISOLATED FOR MUCH OF THE DAY,
UNABLE TO LEAVE HER CHILD EVEN FOR A MOMENT,
THE FRUSTRATION AND TENSIONS OF LONELINESS
BUILD UP.

FOR A FEW, THE STRAINS MAY BE TOO GREAT.

SOME MAY THEMSELVES HAVE EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES
AND SUFFERINGS IN THEIR CHILDHOOD, WHICH MAY
SURFACE AGAIN WHEN THEY IN TURN ARE FACED
WITH THE CHALLENGE OF PARENTHOOD.

/ AND WE MUST

AND WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT TRAGICALLY SOME PEOPLE

HAVE A VIOLENT AND CRUEL STREAK IN THEIR

NATURE,

WE FEEL MOST OF ALL FOR CHILDREN IN THE CARE

OF SUCH PEOPLE, AND COMMON HUMANITY COMPELS

US TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HELP THOSE

INNOCENT YOUNG LIVES,

/ TO PREVENT

TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AND TO HELP RELIEVE STRESS,

THE NSPCC PROVIDES A 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
IN ALL AREAS - A SERVICE CAPABLE OF RESPONDING TO
SUDDEN FAMILY CRISES, OR TO A CALL FROM A
NEIGHBOUR THAT SOMETHING IS BADLY WRONG.

THAT SERVICE IS JUST WHAT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES HAD IN MIND WHEN

IT SAID THAT "PREVENTION SHOULD BE A PRIORITY".

THE PURPOSE OF THE NSPCC IS TO GAIN THE CONFIDENCE

OF THOSE IN TROUBLE, AND TO WORK WITH PARENTS

AND CHILDREN TOGETHER TO TRY TO RE-ESTABLISH A

HAPPY HOME.

/ THIS IS THE

THIS IS THE KIND OF WORK THAT THE NSPCC IS IDEALLY
SUITED TO DO.

SEEING THE DIFFICULTIES AT FIRST HAND,

LISTENING, SUPPORTING, EXPLAINING - SIMPLY BEING
THERE.

AND HAVING A NETWORK OF WILLING HELPERS - FOR
THE STATE CAN NEVER SUBSTITUTE FOR THE GOOD
NEIGHBOUR.

WE IN THE NSPCC KNOW THAT MANY OF THE TENSIONS WHICH GIVE
RISE TO CRUELTY TO CHILDREN STEM NOT FROM LACK
OF MATERIAL THINGS BUT FROM EMOTIONAL AND
SPIRITUAL POVERTY.

/ WE KNOW THAT

WE KNOW THAT MATERIAL ADVANCE HAS BROUGHT ENORMOUS
BENEFITS.

BUT WE KNOW ALSO THAT WE MUST BE ALIVE TO ITS
LIMITATIONS.

TO GET BETTER HOUSING AND NEW INDUSTRY WE HAVE BUILT
NEW TOWNS, BUT IN DOING SO WE MAY HAVE
DESTROYED THE SOCIAL LIFE OF WHOLE COMMUNITIES.

THE VAST MAJORITY OF US HAVE TELEVISIONS IN OUR HOMES.
THEY HAVE BROUGHT KNOWLEDGE AND ENTERTAINMENT
TO MILLIONS.

/ THEY HAVE

THEY HAVE EXPANDED OUR HORIZONS, SHOWING US THE
MARVELS OF NATURE, REPORTING EVENTS ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE GLOBE.

BUT HOW OFTEN HAVE T.V. SETS TAKEN THE PLACE OF
SIMPLE HUMAN CONTACT, LEAVING US NO TIME FOR
FAMILY DISCUSSION OR AN EVENING WITH FRIENDS?

IT WAS LONGFELLOW WHO SAID:

"BETWEEN THE DARK AND THE DAYLIGHT
WHEN THE NIGHT IS BEGINNING TO LOWER
COMES A PAUSE IN THE DAY'S OCCUPATIONS
THAT IS KNOWN AS THE CHILDREN'S HOUR.

THAT WAS IN 1863.

BUT I WAS INTERESTED TO READ VERY RECENTLY
ABOUT A SURVEY CARRIED OUT IN THE EEC WHICH

/ FOUND

FOUND THAT TWO THIRDS OF THE ADULT POPULATION
OF THE COMMUNITY THINK THAT PARENTS NOWADAYS
SPEND TOO LITTLE TIME WITH THEIR CHILDREN.
AND WHEN IT CAME TO ARRANGEMENTS FOR GIVING
THEM MORE TIME TOGETHER, FATHERS WERE JUST AS
INTERESTED AS MOTHERS.

THE TRUTH IS THAT EVERY NEW TECHNOLOGY, EVERY CHANGE
HAS ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES.

WE HAVE TO LEARN TO MAKE USE OF PROGRESSIVE IDEAS
WITHOUT SACRIFICING THE CONVENTIONS, CUSTOMS
AND HUMAN VALUES WHICH MAKE UP A KINDLY AND
GENEROUS SOCIETY.

/ THE SECRET IS

THE SECRET IS TO GET THE RIGHT BLEND BETWEEN THE
OLD AND THE NEW.

TODAY THERE ARE MANY STATE WELFARE SERVICES DEALING WITH
PROBLEMS TO WHICH NO ADEQUATE ANSWER HAS BEEN
FOUND.

BUT NEVER - SEEKING TO SUPPLANT OR TO TAKE OVER
WHAT CAN ONLY BE DONE BY FAMILIES, FRIENDS AND
VOLUNTARY HELP.

OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS, THE GOVERNMENT HAS HELPED TO
MEET THE SOCIETY'S HEADQUARTERS' COSTS, AS WELL
AS SUPPORT CERTAIN SPECIFIC PROJECTS.

TO MARK THE NSPCC CENTENARY NORMAN FOWLER HAS
AGREED TO MAKE AVAILABLE OVER THE NEXT THREE
YEARS A TOTAL OF A FURTHER £500,000 TOWARDS

/ HEADQUARTERS' COSTS,

HEADQUARTERS' COSTS, IN ADDITION TO CONTINUING
PROJECT SUPPORT.

THE NSPCC HAS DEMONSTRATED THE VALUE OF PARTNERSHIPS
BETWEEN VOLUNTARY HELP AND THE STATE.

IN MORE THAN A DOZEN PARTS OF ENGLAND, INCLUDING
GREAT CITIES LIKE MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE AND
LEEDS, THE NSPCC HAS SET UP SPECIAL UNITS IN
CONJUNCTION WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

IT WAS WONDERFUL TO READ JUST LAST WEEK OF THE SUCCESS
THESE UNITS HAVE HAD IN REDUCING THE SEVERITY
OF INJURIES TO CHILDREN AND IN HELPING TO
PREVENT RECURRENT ABUSE.

/ IN NORTHERN IRELAND,

IN NORTHERN IRELAND, THE NSPCC OPERATES 60 NON-SECTARIAN
DAY-CARE CENTRES ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT
TO HELP WITH THE APPALLING PROBLEMS THAT FACE
CHILDREN IN THAT PROVINCE.

WHERE THE NSPCC HAS TO WORK ALONE, IT DOES.

WHERE IT CAN WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT OR WITH
THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, IT WILL.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE NSPCC HAS ALWAYS BEEN THAT
IT'S RESULTS WHICH COUNT.

AND NEVER MORE THAN IN ITS CENTENARY YEAR.

CHILDREN ARE THE HOPE OF THE FUTURE.

BUT THEY ARE ALSO PEOPLE OF THE PRESENT.

THEY ARE PEOPLE WHOSE LIVES ARE A GIFT TO US,

/ WHOSE DEVELOPMENT

WHOSE DEVELOPMENT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY,

WHOSE PROTECTION AND WELL-BEING ARE OUR DUTY,

WHERE ELSE CAN THEY TURN IF NOT TO US?

WE SHALL NOT FAIL THEM.