

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 31, 1970

FOR BILL SAFIRE

Here are four points you might want to touch upon:

(1) Back to school. The education force in America now almost equals the work force. (Finn will have figures.)

Access to higher education is one of the great achievements of American democracy. This fall _____% of persons aged 18 to 25 will be in college. (Finn for figures.) This will include over half a million black students. In the period 1964 to 1969 the number of white students increased 57%. That of blacks 110%. Indeed the groups with the highest proportions of young persons in college in this country are Chinese and Japanese. I.e., our minorities are doing well. (Bill: there are no official data for Jews.)

(2) Poverty is steadily diminishing. In 1969, the number of poor persons was reduced by 1.1 million. (Much data on this.)

(3) American families are growing steadily more prosperous. In 1970, the median family income of Americans will pass the \$10,000 mark. In the same time we are bringing inflation under control, etc.

Female headed families remain a problem. During the past decade, and the past year, the number of female headed families rose and the number of poor female headed families increased also. This is why we must get rid of the destructive welfare system that has created the present situation.

(4) Social peace is returning. This past summer, for the third summer in a row, there were no major civil disorders in American cities. This does not mean there will never be any in the future. Nor could any one party or program claim to be responsible for this lowering of social tensions. Nor is there any ground for lessening efforts we are making in our cities. But it is a fact that the rising tide of disorders which not long ago seemed about to engulf the nation, has now possibly begun to ebb.

Daniel P. Moynihan
(dictated from his farm in New York)

cc: Checker Finn