

WHEN POWER CHANGES IN WASHINGTON, AS IT HAS IN THE
LAST MONTH, IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THOSE OF US INTERESTED
IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF OUR NATION'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
TO REVIEW ITS PRESENT CONDITION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS.

IN 1965, LYNDON JOHNSON SENT CONGRESS THE FIRST
EXECUTIVE MESSAGE CONCERNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE PROBLEM
OF CRIME. WITH THAT INITIAL STEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTED ITS RESOURCES TO A "WAR ON CRIME". THAT COMMITMENT
WAS SOON DISTORTED.

"LAW AND ORDER" BECAME THE CODEWORDS FOR A CAMPAIGN
TO LINK CRIME IN OUR SOCIETY TO A FEW SELECTED GROUPS. IT
WAS SUGGESTED TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT THE CRIMINAL HABIT
WAS BY INSTINCT AND DISPOSITION THE SINGULAR CHARACTERISTIC
THAT SET THE YOUNG, THE POOR, AND THE BLACK APART FROM THE
REST OF SOCIETY. FOR FIVE YEARS, THOSE WHO SWORE ON THE
CONSTITUTION TO UPHOLD THE LAW AND SEEK JUSTICE FOR ALL

CITIZENS ATTEMPTED TO BUILD A THEORY OF JUSTICE AROUND THIS SUPPOSITION. THEIR PRECIPITATION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS DESTROYED WHATEVER CREDIBILITY PEOPLE GAVE TO THE THEORY. THE LENGTHS TO WHICH THEY WENT TO SUBVERT JUSTICE CAST RENEWED SUSPICION ON ALL MEMBERS OF THEIR PROFESSION.

AS A GROUP, POLITICIANS BECAME SUSPECT. THE CONTINUED DISCOVERY OF TRANSGRESSIONS BY OTHER POLITICIANS, SOME GRAVE, SOME FOOLISH, DID LITTLE TO WIPE AWAY THE STIGMA. IN THE MIND'S EYE OF THE PUBLIC WASHINGTON BECAME A REFUGE FOR MEN WHO COMMITTED THE MOST GRIEVOUS CRIMES--THOSE WHICH BETRAYED THE PUBLIC TRUST.

MEANWHILE IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS, CRIME CONTINUED TO RISE. PUT IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE, CRIME WAS NOT SO MUCH A NATIONAL PROBLEM AS IT WAS AN IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORHOOD TRIBULATION. IN RESPONSE TO THE RISE IN CRIME PEOPLE BOUGHT MORE HANDGUNS, TRAINED MORE POLICE DOGS, AND SLAMMED SHUT MORE LOCKS ON DOORS AT NIGHT.

THOSE OF US IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM HAVE
DONE OUR BEST TO WIN THE "WAR ON CRIME". UNFORTUNATELY,
WE DISCOVERED THAT THERE WAS NOT MUCH METHODOLOGY TO OUR
APPROACH OR ORGANIZATION TO OUR SYSTEM. DISCONNECTED---
WOULD BE THE BEST WORD TO DESCRIBE THE CONDITION OF OUR
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM WHEN FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT
FIRST BEGAN.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S INITIAL EFFORTS TO REDUCE
CRIME DID NOTHING TO REPAIR THIS DISCONNECTION. CONGRESSIONAL
UNCERTAINTY OVER PRIORITIES MANIFESTED THE PUBLIC'S CONFUSION
OVER WHICH WAY TO TURN. ONLY GRADUALLY DID WE BECOME AWARE OF
THE FRAGMENTATION AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT HINDERED OUR
EFFORTS.

MUCH OF THE EMPHASIS OF RECENT FEDERAL LEGISLATION HAS
BEEN TO RESTORE A BALANCE TOO AND BRING TOGETHER THE DIFFERENT
FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. CONGRESSIONAL

ACTION LAST YEAR TO INSURE THE COURTS A FAIR SHARE OF FEDERAL FUNDS UNDERSCORES THE CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL COMMITMENT TO THIS COURSE OF ACTION.

A DECADE AFTER THE "WAR ON CRIME" WAS DECLARED, CRIME IS STILL ON THE RISE. OUR EFFORTS TO CURB ITS GROWTH HAS ONLY GIVEN US A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUE. IT IS IN THAT CONTEXT THAT WE MEET TODAY. WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

MANY WILL WAIT FOR THE PRESIDENT TO SET THE TONE AND TAKE THE LEAD. I CAN NOT SPEAK FOR THE PRESIDENT, BUT I BELIEVE HE WILL CONSIDER HIS EFFORTS TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AS HIS MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE "WAR ON CRIME". THE PRESIDENT WILL ALSO FOCUS HIS ATTENTION ON ELIMINATING THE DISPARITY IN SENTENCING STANDARDS AND IN PROSECUTING ANTI-TRUST CASES.

THE PRESIDENT'S BELIEF THAT UNEMPLOYMENT IS ONE OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF CRIME IS VERY MUCH IN KEEPING WITH EXISTING CONGRESSIONAL VIEWS. THIS YEAR THE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME WILL HOLD HEARINGS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CRIME AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

CONGRESS WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO GLUE TOGETHER THE DIFFERENT FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. MUCH OF ITS EFFORT WILL BE DIRECTED AT MAKING THE CITIZEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS BELIEVE THAT WE MAY BE BUILDING A SYSTEM WITHOUT DIGGING A FOUNDATION ON WHICH TO PUT IT. IN THE LAST DECADE, WE HAVE MADE NO SUSTAINED EFFORT TO ACTIVELY INVOLVE, UNDERSCORE ACTIVELY, THE CITIZEN IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD. WE TALK A LOT ABOUT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

WE REALLY DO. BUT YOU HAVE ONLY TO LOOK AT THE PROGRAM FOR THIS CONFERENCE TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE PROFESSIONALS HAVE YET TO DEVELOP A COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE. NO WORKSHOPS ARE SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE ROLE OF THE CITIZEN IN FIGHTING CRIME. NO SPEAKERS ARE SCHEDULED TO SPEAK ABOUT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT. WE HAVE SOMEHOW DISCONNECTED OURSELVES FROM THE PEOPLE. WE HAVE MADE NO ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE THEIR SENSE OF JUSTICE.

LAWS REFLECT VALUES, THE DEGREE TO WHICH A COMMUNITY SUPPORTS THE LAW MANIFESTS THE VALUES ADHERED TO BY THAT COMMUNITY. WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS TO INVEST MORE OF OUR TIME AND RESOURCES IN HELPING THOSE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS THAT SET STANDARDS FOR WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE AND WHAT IS NOT. NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS CAN BRING TO BEAR ON THE PROBLEM THOSE THINGS THAT ARE MOST INTANGIBLE, YET, MOST IMPORTANT. A FEELING OF CONCERN THAT CAN OVERCOME THE BELIEF HELD BY SO MANY OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

THAT EVERYONE IS INDIFFERENT. A SENSE OF COMMUNITY THAT CAN OVERCOME SELFISHNESS. THESE INTANGIBLE FEELINGS CAN ONLY COME FROM WITHIN A COMMUNITY. THEY GIVE EACH PERSON A SENSE THAT THEY HAVE A STAKE IN IT'S SURVIVAL. SUCH FEELINGS CAN ACT AS A RESTRAINT ON CRIME.

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONAL CAN NEITHER BE INDIFFERENT OR HOSTILE TOWARD CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT. PROFESSIONALISM SHOULD NOT BECOME EQUATED IN THE MIND OF THE PUBLIC WITH ARROGANT DISDAIN FOR THE VIEWS OF THE CITIZEN. ALREADY PROFESSIONALS IN THIS FIELD AND IN OTHERS ARE SUSPECT. THEY WILL REMAIN SUSPECT UNTIL THEY REALIZE THAT EXPERTISE DOES NOT MAKE THE PROFESSIONAL THE FOUNTAINHEAD OF CREATIVITY. THE CITIZEN SHOULD NOT HAVE TO CRACK THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

CONGRESS WANTS CITIZEN PARTICIPATION. LAST YEAR, IN REAUTHORIZING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE AGENCY, CONGRESS ADDED AN AMENDMENT WHICH REQUIRES THAT AGENCY

TO INSURE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS OF THE PLANNING PROCESS. THE INDIVIDUAL CITIZEN'S OBJECTIVITY CAN BALANCE THE PROVINCIALISM THAT SOMETIMES ENCUMBERS THE LAW-ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL, WHO HAS A VESTED INTEREST IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF HIS COMPONENT OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

CONGRESS IS ALSO REQUIRING LEAA TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE TO ORGANIZE COMMUNITY ANTI-CRIME PROGRAMS. \$15,000,000 DOLLARS HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR THIS PROGRAM. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS BELIEVE THAT CITIZENS CAN DO MORE IN REDUCING CRIME THAN JUST BOLTING THEIR DOORS AT NIGHT.

YOU NEED NOT WAIT FOR THE PRESIDENT OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SET THE NATIONAL AGENDA FOR FIGHTING CRIME. CRIME---THE PEOPLE'S PROBLEM CAN BE REDUCED IF WE ARE WILLING TO TAP THE PEOPLE'S SENSE OF JUSTICE. IT IS A WELLSPRING OF COMMITMENT FOR A SAFER AND MORE JUST SOCIETY.