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Wed, 1 Mar 2000 22:30:37 -0500 (EST)

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Date: Wed, 01 Mar 2000 22:28:49 -0500

From: Robert & Robin Voitle <rvoitle@snet.net>

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Subject: 1st Grade Shooting in Michigan

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Dear Governor,

Do you really think this incident would not have happened if safety locks had been issued? Think about it. Is this the solution? I don't think so. I think the blame is on this country and where it's at. What about family values? Not much of that these days. And that's because everyone is so busy, many working. Why don't you give the \$ from the safety locks, tax incentives, and your census commercials promoting more

\$ for DAYCARE! to families so they can raise their children, not daycare

providers. Other countries give a stipend to families with children and I think they are on to something. Maybe you and congress should explore this option because it looks to me like the situation is out of hand. I'd say the country is having a FAMILY CRISIS, wouldn't you? How can you

ignore the situation? I guess that's the question I'd like to address. I was tempted to write to politicians a while back, and this event pushed me to. When you get to the bottom of the problem, look at people's lifestyles. The U.S. is really not family friendly. It's hard for the average family to make ends meet. I know first hand. I am a business professional who chose to stay home after my first child was born. We now have two children and run a tight ship. I recently looked into employment on a part-time basis to help take the edge off, maybe earn enough to buy the weekly groceries. After receiving two job offers,

I seriously looked at the whole situation:

\$14 an hour

20 hours a week

\$8 an hour for 2 children in daycare

After calling the IRS, I found out that after taxes, my take home pay would be about \$35. That hardly seems worth leaving my house, especially

since I am not an advocate of daycare to begin with. It is a double edged sword. You don't really get ahead either way. Either way the family unit suffers. So, you just try to stay afloat and do the best you can for your family.

Please look at the situation. Do something to impact the country and leave your mark. The world isn't such a great place anymore. Look through the average person's eyes and you'll see for yourself. Make the world a better place. Let's make a change, get back to basics and go from there. Promote family values.

Best Wishes,

Robin Voitle
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