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**Folder Title:** Nancy Reagan: Healthy Mother  
Healthy Babies Dinner, Jan. 13, 1983

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(Parvin)  
January 7, 1983  
11:30 a.m.

MRS. REAGAN: HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES DINNER  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1983

-- Good evening to all of you at the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Dinner. You know there's a line from the movie, "Gone with the Wind," that sums up why we're all gathered here tonight. Olivia de Havilland, who plays Melanie, says, "The happiest days are when babies come." Well, we want those days to be genuinely happy for all mothers. We want their babies to be robust and healthy.

-- I've been involved with a number of projects for children with special needs, and it's a pleasure to be part of this important work as well. And let me thank the Cabinet wives, all of whom are mothers by the way, for their commitment to this project.

-- About 250,000 babies are born with birth defects each year in this country. If we can reach just some of those mothers during their pregnancy and make a difference, what a contribution that would be. And that is what the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies campaign is all about -- informing mothers on what they can do for their health and that of their unborn and newborn babies.

-- Thank you again for allowing me to be part of this campaign, and thank you for working to assure that the days when babies come genuinely are happy.