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(Parvin)
January 7, 1983
11:00 a.m.

MRS. REAGAN: PRIDE CONFERENCE GREETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1983

-- Hello to all of you attending the PRIDE Conference in San Francisco. I still vividly remember my trip to your conference in Atlanta last April, and I'm sorry I can't join you again this year.

-- But by way of this brief message, I did want you to know you're still in my thoughts, and I'm prouder of you than ever. You are having a powerful impact on the drug crisis afflicting our children. It's encouraging to see more and more parents becoming involved, instead of simply pushing the problem off onto government. After all, the government didn't have the children; parents did, and the ultimate responsibility and also the best hope still rest in the family.

-- You are the beacon for those parents -- showing them the way, showing them they aren't defenseless, showing them they can save their children. You are the symbol of help and hope. The growth in the number of parent groups indicates the void you have filled. As I've said before, the parents movement shows that something can be done on a scale larger than previously believed.

-- But before I go, I want to thank you again for inviting me, and thank you for what you're doing for America and her children.