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**Collection:** Speechwriting, White House Office  
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**Folder Title:** Nancy Reagan: Just Say No March.  
April 26, 1985

**Box:** 436

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(Parvin)

MRS. REAGAN: JUST SAY NO MARCH  
APRIL 26, 1985

--Welcome and thank you for this T-shirt. I wish I could've marched with you, but not everyone can be in the parade. Somebody has to stand on the side and clap and wave as the parade goes by, and that is my job today.

--I am proud of each of you who have taken the time to march against drugs. Sometimes it's not easy saying no to drugs. An older friend or even a friend your own age may try to get you to use them. They'll say, "Oh, don't be chicken. Come on, have some fun. Everybody does it." But everybody doesn't do it; it's not fun; and it takes more courage to say no than to say yes.

*so many kids*  
~~--I wish you could talk to some of the kids~~ I've talked to<sup>a</sup> who have been hooked on drugs. They ~~would~~ tell ~~you~~<sup>me</sup> how horrible their lives became. I don't want to see that happen to you. . .and neither do your parents or teachers. We love you for what you are. We want you to grow up strong and full of life and energy. Drugs can take that away.

--Some of you have already been offered drugs, and you will get more drugs pushed at you as you get older. And when that happens next, I want you to think about this march. And about all the other kids in marches all across the country. Think how loud it would sound if everyone said no at the same time and that is how loud you should say it when you're offered drugs. So on the count of three, let's practice saying no. One. Two. Three. (NO!) Louder (NO!) Louder (NO!) That's wonderful. That will keep drugs away. Thank you for coming today.

-- SOME OF YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN OFFERED DRUGS, AND YOU WILL GET MORE DRUGS PUSHED AT YOU AS YOU GET OLDER. AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS NEXT, I WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT THIS MARCH. AND ABOUT ALL THE OTHER KIDS IN MARCHES ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THINK HOW LOUD IT WOULD SOUND IF EVERYONE SAID NO AT THE SAME TIME AND THAT IS HOW LOUD YOU SHOULD SAY IT WHEN YOU'RE OFFERED DRUGS. SO ON THE COUNT OF THREE, LET'S PRACTICE SAYING NO. ONE. TWO. THREE. (NO!) LOUDER (NO!) LOUDER (NO!) THAT'S WONDERFUL. THAT WILL KEEP DRUGS AWAY. THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY.