



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

NOTES BY
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
WEDNESDAY NIGHT, MAY 4
BEFORE AMERICAN MOTHERS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lewis, mothers and friends of mothers: --

It is a joy to be with you and to welcome you to our
nation's capital.

As you already know, President Johnson conveys
to you his warmest greetings, and I am so very happy to
join with you -- in person.

Truly, this is a "Star Spangled Award" night.
There are "stars" in our eyes -- so many wonderful mothers --
and stars in our hearts.

This beautiful citation is an inspiration. Thank
you so much. Each of us who is blessed to have a living
mother and those whose mother is departed -- cannot help
but feel in our heart: --

Dr Stanton
Esther Peterson

President Dorothy Lewis
American Mothers
Committee

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"If only my own dear Mother were

here in this room tonight, there is so

much that we would like to say to her,

so much gratitude we would like to express."

President Johnson

And so, it is wonderful that if our own
Mother cannot be here, at least we can say to other

fine mothers: Members of Congress

"America is so very proud of you."

~~We are proud — 365 days a year — and~~

~~not just on Mothers' Day."~~

I want to express my congratulations to the

50 Mothers who have won the State Awards and, in particular,

my congratulations to the National Award Winner. Mrs.

Bertha Holt, your achievement in bringing to our land over

3000 Korean orphans thrills our hearts. God bless you for it.

In a certain respect, every devoted mother is a "prize winner." ~~The best prize we can confer upon her is to live as she would wish us, to contribute to our nation as she would wish us, to raise fine upstanding children.~~

You who are winners throughout the 50 States have done exactly that. You have been model mothers and model wives. You have demonstrated the spiritual values, the civic interest, the community devotion -- which maintain this nation strong.

The sweetest word in any language is still "Mother." From the cradle on, it is the first word we learn. Throughout our lives, it carries with it more genuine sentiment, more touching memories -- than almost any other word.

There is not one of us here who cannot reminisce about our own dear mother, but I will not take your time to do so.

There is another mother that I would love to tell you about -- she lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland and Waverly, Minnesota -- the mother of our four children, the grandmother of our 3 dear grand-daughters. And there is another wonderful mother, not very far from us -- a mother of two worthy daughters and ^a/devoted mate to the great man who lives at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. -- Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson.

Throughout the land are countless unknown mothers who will never win fame, will never win awards, but whom you do symbolize and represent tonight.

Truly, the "hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world." The mothers of our free land are one of the most priceless assets of our country. 21

In contrast, in Communist dictatorship, the family unit is almost destroyed; the state becomes a proxy parent, depriving children of natural love and affection. We reject dictatorship, we reject "Big Brother" or "Big Mother" -- an all-powerful State. We cherish true Motherhood.

And so, to each and every one of you, go my greetings, my commendation and my thanks -- not just as your Vice President, but as a grateful son.

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