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James W. Prescott, Ph.D.

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31 December 2007

Senator Thomas R. Carper
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Bld.
Washington, DC 20510

C/o Mr. Bill Ghent
Legislative Director
Bill_ghent@carper.senate.gov

Dear Senator Carper,

This is in response to your letter of 14 December 2007 that was clearly written before my letter to you of 19 December 2007, attached. I respect the efforts that you have made on behalf of the mental health of children; however, they do not address my concerns to you expressed in my letters to you of 23 October 2007 and of 19 December 2007 and the specific requests that I made of you. I recognize that there are several avenues available to address these issues, one of them being the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, of which you are not a member. I wrote you as my Senator to intercede on behalf of the abused and neglected children of American and my efforts to defend them.

In my letter to you of 19 December 2007, I requested the following:

This letter is a follow-up of my letter to you of 23 October 2007 requesting that you investigate the NICHD/NIH's abandonment of the mothers and children of this nation by unlawfully divesting itself of its agency responsibility to support research on child abuse and neglect and my wrongful termination of a 17 year federal career in defending the abused and neglected children of this nation.

You have to ask yourself whether the health and well being of the mothers and children of this nation today are better off than they were in 1970, the year of the *1970 White House Conference on Children*. Homicides and suicides among our children and youth are at a staggering unacceptable level where children are killing children; school shootings continue unabated; psychiatric medications of our children are at an epidemic level and the continuing levels of suicide among our children and youth go unexplained.

I provided extensive documentation for the leadership that I exercised as Health Scientist Administrator, Developmental Behavioral Biology Program, NICHD/NIH from 1966-1980, which need not be repeated here but recommend your careful review of these documents.

Based upon these documents I am requesting that you write a letter to Dr. Zerhouni, Director, NIH requesting a clarification and justification of the falsification of the NIH record to the Congress, my opposition to these false statements and the real reason for my unlawful termination of employment for being a whistleblower defending the interests of the abused and neglected children of this nation. This letter could take the form written by Senator McMathias, Jr in 1981, on my behalf, requesting similar information from DHHS Secretary Schweiker, in your possession.

I am also requesting from you that you submit my letters to you with supporting documentation to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman, and Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for his review and action.

The continuing neglect of our children, particularly those that commit suicide in the age group of 5-14 years cries out for an explanation, as the mental health of these children has continued to deteriorate since 1970.

Urie Bronfenbrenner, Chairman, *1970 White House Conference on Children*, in a Minority Report, Forum 15, stated: "American families, and their children, are in trouble, trouble so deep and pervasive as to threaten the future of our nation. The source of the trouble is nothing less than a national neglect of children and those primarily engaged in their care--America's parents."

Herbert Marcuse reminded us in 1962 the great indictments against civilization:

Not those who die, but those who die before they must
and want to die, those who die in agony and pain
are the great indictments against civilization.

Eros and Civilization (1962)

America remains indicted as a civilization.

I request that you give these issues the serious attention that they deserve.

Sincerely,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.

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19 December 2007

Senator Thomas R. Carper
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Bld.
Washington, DC 20510

C/o Mr. Bill Ghent
Legislative Director
Bill_ghent@carper.senate.gov

Dear Senator Carper,

This letter is a follow-up of my letter to you of 23 October 2007 requesting that you investigate the NICHD/NIH's abandonment of the mothers and children of this nation by unlawfully divesting itself of its agency responsibility to support research on child abuse and neglect and my wrongful termination of a 17 year federal career in defending the abused and neglected children of this nation.

You have to ask yourself whether the health and well being of the mothers and children of this nation today are better off than they were in 1970, the year of the *1970 White House Conference on Children*. Homicides and suicides among our children and youth are at a staggering unacceptable level where children are killing children; school shootings continue unabated; psychiatric medications of our children are at an epidemic level and the continuing levels of suicide among our children and youth go unexplained.

More children and youth (ages 5-24 years) have committed suicide in the past ten years than the total number of American combat lives lost in the ten year Vietnam War (est 55,000 v 47,355) yet little or no public attention has been given to this reality and what it represents. Why do so many of our children and youth prefer death through suicide than living with their own families and in America? For the 5-14 year age group suicide/homicide ratios have systematically increased from 1979: **36%**; 1994: **60%**; 1998: **73%**; 2004: **88%**.

I have previously pointed out that failure of high affectional bonding in the mother-infant/child relationship is the principal cause of this mortality that has been ignored by the NICHD/NIH. I have reported that 77% (20/26) tribal cultures whose weaning age is 2.5 years or longer are low or absent in suicide, a finding that I have requested from the NIH be replicated on modern human cultures. The NIH has refused to conduct such studies.

The NIH has further refused to conduct MRI and fMRI brain studies on young adults who have been breastfed for "two years or longer"--WHO/UNICEF recommendation-- compared to non-breastfed young adults in their infancy. Brain structure and function underlies all behavior and it can be expected that brain differences exist between these two groups, particularly, where depression and suicide are also present in the non-breast-fed group that is also driven by a history of child abuse and neglect, behaviors that are strikingly absent in the high breastfeeding group.

I have submitted extensive documentation to you of the history of child abuse and neglect research by the NICHD, programs which I initiated when I was Health Scientist Administrator, Developmental Behavioral Biology Program, NICHD (1966-1980). Attached are supplemental information that confirms this legacy

in *The NIH Record*, September 16, 1979 and January 4, 1972, which illustrates my receiving the CINE Golden Eagle Award for my scientific consultation in the production of the Time Life documentary "Rock-a-Bye Baby" that was premiered at the 1970 White House Conference on Children.

Also attached are dramatic photographs of the consequences of maternal-infant separation--no abuse--just separation, the failure of physical affectional bonding; and a *History of Betrayal of Mothers and Children* at the NIH. The key to understanding cultures of peace from cultures of violence can be found in Table 1 that illustrates how life paths of peace or violence are set by how the developing brain is sculptured by early life experiences of pain or pleasure.

I am, again, requesting that you give some priority to my requests; that you ask Dr. Zerhouni to reconcile the statements made in *The NIH Record* of September 16, 1979 and January 4, 1972 with the false statements made to the Congress and by Secretary Schweiker: "The NICHD has never supported a program of research in child abuse and neglect" that justified the wrongful termination of my 17 year federal career in Science Administration.

I do not wish to dwell on the extraordinary losses that my family and I have suffered due to this wrongful termination and my desire to restore my professional integrity and dignity.

Your early response would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.

THOMAS R. CARPER
DELAWARE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0803

December 14, 2007

James Prescott, Ph.D.
1140-17 Savannah Rd
Lewes, Delaware 19958

Dear Dr. Prescott.:

Thank you for contacting me to express your concerns about the National Institutes of Health and to request a Congressional hearing. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention.

Let me begin by saying that I understand your concerns about rising levels of depression and mental health disorders, particularly among our children and young adults. In the aftermath of the horrible tragedy at Virginia Tech last April, many have begun calling for better and more proactive measures to monitor and assist young people, as well as better coordination among mental health care providers. Our nation can certainly do a better job of spreading awareness about the causes and treatments of certain mental health problems.

As you probably know, in 1996, Congress passed the Mental Health Parity Act, which amended the Employee Retirement Income Security Act to establish new federal standards for mental health coverage offered by group health plans. While this legislation was an important step in bringing attention to the discriminatory practices, it did not create full parity under the law. Rather, it only provided for catastrophic mental health services. More specifically, it would prohibit health insurers from imposing annual and lifetime dollar limits on mental health coverage that are more restrictive than those imposed on medical and physical coverage. However, group plans may still impose more restrictive treatment limitations or cost sharing requirements on their mental health coverage compared to their physical coverage. Moreover, health insurers that choose not to provide mental health benefits are not required to add them, and employers with 50 or fewer employees are exempt from the law.

In an effort to address the original legislation's shortcomings, Senator Pete Domenici (R-NM) introduced the Mental Health Parity Act of 2007 on February 12. This legislation would require health insurers to provide the same level of coverage for mental health conditions as they do for physical illnesses. The bill would also disallow limits on days or treatment visits and exorbitant co-payments or deductibles. Shortly after its introduction, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions approved the Mental Health Parity Act by a vote of 18-3. I want you to know that I am a co-sponsor of this legislation, and I have supported similar legislation in previous Congresses. With that said, the Mental Health Parity Act is currently awaiting consideration before the full Senate.

As you may know, twenty-nine states, including Delaware, have similar if not stronger mental health parity laws already in place. As Governor of Delaware, I worked with members of the state legislature in 1998 to pass a mental health parity bill similar to the Mental Health Parity Act. The measure requires the same healthcare coverage for serious mental health disorders as it does for physical illness and disease. I signed this bill into law because I believed that our state had the responsibility to ensure that all Delawareans receive the treatment necessary to overcome their illness, whether it is mental or physical in nature. I believe that by making mental health parity a national policy, we can make important strides in diagnosing and supporting children with mental health problems.

With that being said, I regret to inform you that I do not serve on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, which would have jurisdiction over the matters you addressed. Therefore, it is not within my jurisdiction to arrange a Congressional hearing about the specific policies of the National Institutes of Health. Should I get the chance to vote on legislation regarding your matters of concern with my colleagues in the full Senate, I will be sure to keep your views in mind.

Thank you again for contacting my office regarding this issue. Please feel free to contact my office in the future about this or any other matter of importance to you.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Carper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas R. Carper
United States Senate

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23 October 2007

Senator Thomas R. Carper
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Bld.
Washington, DC 20510

Re: National Institutes of Health

Dear Senator Carper,

Please find enclosed a copy of my letter of 23 October 2007 to Dr. Zerhouni, Director, NIH, with attachments, that details a history of false statements, denials and suppression of the truth to the Congress by officials of the National Institutes of Health concerning my wrongful termination of a 17 year federal career in science administration in 1980; that has resulted in the wrongful termination of agency responsibility to support research in child abuse and neglect and developmental origins of violence by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) that was not resumed until the mid 1990s; the continuing refusal of NIH officials to correct the unlawful actions of Dr. Norman Kretchmer, then Director, NICHD who exceeded his legal authority to abolish the NICHD mission to support "research and training in the special health problems and requirements of mothers and children" (Public Law 87-838, Sec 441); the failure to acknowledge and support research that documents impaired brain development and behavior in children consequent to impaired and failed bonding in the maternal-infant/child relationship; and the failure to initiate health programs that are known to prevent the devastating consequences of maternal-infant/child separation--the increasing violence against mothers and children; the increasing sexual exploitation of women and children; the increasing and unacceptable suicides of children and youth over the past quarter century; and the massive psychiatric medications of children and youth to correct disorders that are highly preventable and which were unheard of a generation or so ago.

I am requesting that you, Senator Biden and Representative Castle review the enclosed documents and hold Congressional hearings on this history of the NIH and its failure to act to prevent the health crises of America. Congressional remedial actions are necessary to correct the increasing depression and violence that now afflicts America, as the NIH has failed in its mission. Most of the depression and violence among our children and youth are preventable.

In a New York Times report, Representative Chris Cannon of Utah pressed Mr. Fielding on whether he "understood that a lie would be prosecutable", even if the interview was not conducted under oath." He said, 'Yes, we understand that,' Mr. Cannon said. "Lying to Congress can be a crime even if the false statements are not made under oath" (attachment, Stolberg, NYT 3.21.07, "Bush Clashes with Congress"). The many statements made by NIH officials to the Congress concerning its research history and programs on child abuse and neglect-- over the years-- have been false and are crimes.

I am "petition(ing) the government for a redress of grievances", under my First Amendment rights, to correct a grave injustice to myself and family; and to the mothers, children and families of America who have suffered needlessly through the torrents of depression and violence that has been made possible by the abuse, betrayal and neglect by the National Institutes of Health.

As we face a new administration in the forthcoming elections, it is necessary in my view, to re-organize the health science bureaus of this nation where a Department of Science needs to be created with an Undersecretary for the Physical Sciences and an Undersecretary for the Life Sciences. Health, in its broadest sense, goes beyond the limitations of the biomedical-pharmaceutical enterprises and the straitjacket of the genomic sciences that is strangling health research and policy in this country.

No living organism-- from microbe to man--can grow to become a healthy organism by living in a toxic environment. America and the world has been so contaminated by corporate-industrial enterprises that a healthy environment to raise children is almost impossible to find.

The pristine environments of pre-industrial tribal cultures have documented that high maternal-infant/child affectional bonding (baby-carrying during the first year of life) can predict 80% of the peaceful and violent homicidal nature of 49 cultures studied. The exceptions could be accounted for by whether youth sexual affection was permitted or punished. 77% (20/26) of cultures where weaning age was 2.5 years or longer were found to have low or absent suicides; and 82% (14/17) of these cultures that permitted youth sexual expression were rated low or absent in suicide. Can child and youth suicides today be traced to the lack of breastfeeding bonding and youth affectional sexual expression?--issues that the NIH refuses to address!

Additional documentation is posted at <http://www.violence.de>.

Your attention to this petition is appreciated.

Sincerely,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.

Cc: Senator Biden
Representative Castle