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WHEREVER LAW ENDS, TYRANNY BEGINS

It is most fitting that the Col. Polk Chapter of the DAR should be concerned about violence and disrespect for law and justice which continues to plague our State and nation today. The record of crime is too well known to require much explanation. But I think we should note: (crime information).

I commend you for your program to encourage and bring about greater respect for the law. You have taken a positive approach and it is only through positive actions that we can ever hope to solve any of our problems. It is simple enough to blame, to find fault and to criticize. But it is much more difficult to find answers and to instill respect for law and order.

I believe there was no need clearer to Colonial Americans than that of a representative government worthy of the respect of its citizens and to which they could go for relief from the tyranny and oppressive burdens placed upon them. They knew that only through a representative government could individual liberties be secured. And from those early Americans we today know that there was a time in our history when violence was

necessary to destroy the oppression of the tyrant and create a just society. We know this because it is true that our nation was founded through the use of just such violence.

There are some persons today who would attempt to justify their lawlessness on the basis of the American Revolution. I think they should look to the conditions that roused our forefathers to revolution. If they do, I think they will find that there were very special conditions which do not now exist nor will ever again exist in these United States.

In the words of the Declaration of Independence, Americans had endured a long train of abuses and wrongful use of power designed to subject individuals to absolute despotism. Colonial Americans time and time again sought relief for their wrongs - sought relief from oppressive burdens, but all without any success.

There was no government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" to whom they could turn. There was no representative government and no means by which men could peacefully right the wrongs which existed in the system under which they were forced to live. Law was imposed from without, and though the British Crown gave lip service to the rights of men, no one honored those rights.

the ideals of our way of life, teach them the value of putting their own selfish concerns second to the good of society, for although we live under an economic system that entitles each man to work for his own benefit, that right has never meant that we can cheat, rob, and injure our fellow citizens. Teach your students that although they can be enterprising, they should never be unjust, for only if each American is taught to treat other Americans fairly can we develop those feelings of friendship and sympathy that America needs if we are to have a stable nation. We have heard much about divisiveness in our society recently. You should remember and teach that nothing divides one man from another, causes one man to hate another more than injustice does.

Finally, when you become teachers and administrators, remember that your students are human beings, that they are not names in a roll book or bodies in chairs. Remember that they have feelings and fears, that they need to be liked not only by their teachers but by their fellow students, that many have personal problems, and that each and every one of them needs help. Remembering this will probably be the most difficult part of your job, but when a teacher forgets it, he betrays society's trust, for a society puts more of its trust in the teachers of its children than in anything else. When Solomon became king of Israel, he asked the Lord for a wise and understanding heart. A good teacher also needs such wisdom and understanding.

President John F. Kennedy stirred this nation's soul when he told us to "ask not what your country can do for you but ask what you can do for your country." What you as teachers can do is teach your students the greatness of America's ideals, teach them the value of putting the fulfill-