



Councilman Michael Woo

City of Los Angeles

13th District
City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 485-3353

March 5, 1986

Mr. Thomas F. Coleman
Director
Domestic Partner Equity Fund
P.O. Box 65756
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Tom

In the coming weeks, I will be convening a Task Force on Family Diversity. The Task Force will be studying the diversity of families in the City of Los Angeles and the extent to which some of our "variable" families may suffer unjust economic or other discrimination. The Task Force will conduct research and hold public hearings over a several month period. It will then issue a report to me approximately in the spring and summer of 1987. The report will contain the recommendations of the Task Force for any administrative or legislative reform which may be necessary to achieve equitable and fair treatment of all legitimate family groups in Los Angeles.

It has been brought to my attention that you have developed a considerable amount of expertise in this area of concern. I understand that you have recently been appointed as Director of the Domestic Partners Equity Fund, a non-profit research and educational project, which offers consulting services to public officials without cost to the taxpayers.

I believe that the Task Force would benefit by availing itself of the services of the Domestic Partners Equity Fund. In this regard, I would like to appoint you to serve as a Special Consultant to the Task Force. Of course, your role as Task Force adviser can be worked out with the Co-Chairs as soon as the group is officially convened.

I look forward to your participation in this vital and innovative project.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL WOO
Councilman

MW:TFed

TASK FORCE ON FAMILY DIVERSITY

Mandate

WHEREAS, the family, as an institution, has played and continues to play an important role in the development of our city, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, "family" is a broad and expansive concept, capable of encompassing a wide range of committed relationships; and

WHEREAS, most individuals, in furtherance of their inalienable rights to life, liberty, privacy, and pursuit of happiness, have formed and continue to form family relationships; and

WHEREAS, our city is rich in family diversity; and

WHEREAS, government should encourage the formation and development of family relationships; and

WHEREAS, government itself should not foster discrimination against families, nor should it tolerate unfair private discrimination against families; and


WHEREAS, in furtherance of our commitment to family life and individual freedom, the City of Los Angeles and its affiliated political entities should adopt reasonable measures to address the legitimate needs of families; and

WHEREAS, government authority to remedy family problems is vested in various levels and branches of government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Los Angeles City Councilman Michael Woo, by virtue of the power vested in me as a member of the Los Angeles City Council and as Chairman of the City Council's Intergovernmental Relations Committee, do hereby convene a TASK FORCE ON FAMILY DIVERSITY:

1. Said Task Force shall consist of two co-chairs and up to 38 other members appointed by me.
2. The co-chairs and members shall serve without compensation.
3. The Task Force shall study the nature and extent of family diversity in the City of Los Angeles and shall investigate any evident problems experienced by variable family groups, such as single-parent families, unmarried couples, immigrant families, gay or lesbian couples, or families with senior or disabled members.
4. The Task Force shall issue a final report by April, 1988, documenting its findings, noting demographic and legal trends, and making recommendations for legislative, administrative, educational, or other appropriate actions which should be undertaken within the public or private sectors to address the special problems of families in Los Angeles.

Dated: April 9, 1986



COUNCILMAN MICHAEL WOO

THOMAS F. COLEMAN

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

CENTER FOR PERSONAL RIGHTS ADVOCACY
POST OFFICE BOX 65756 • LOS ANGELES, CA 90065 • (213) 258-8955

Councilman Michael Woo
13th Council District
Los Angeles, California

June 26, 1986

Re: Expanding the Membership of the Family Diversity Task Force

Dear Councilman Woo:

The Task Force on Family Diversity is emerging from its organizational phase and will soon begin to research problems experienced by variable family groups living in our city.

Presently, the Task Force membership consists of 31 persons. Members have been paired off into research teams which will be studying the following areas of concern:

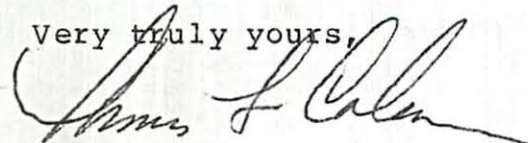
defining family -- family and household demographics -- public policy and family diversity -- children and public policy -- foster and adoptive families -- immigrant families -- gay/lesbian couples -- lesbians/gays as parents -- single person households -- housing issues -- insurance discrimination -- government employee benefits -- family life education in the schools -- disability issues -- seniors issues

The co-chairs and I have examined the composition of the Task Force membership and recommend that six additional members be appointed so that the group may represent a larger cross-section of the community. To accomplish this, we suggest that you solicit recommendations from six other council members for potential appointees. We strongly urge that the new members include two Black women, one Asian woman, and three Latinas.

The next meeting of the Task Force is July 22, 1986. The new members should receive letters from you confirming their appointment by July 10, 1986, so that we may have sufficient time to brief them and assign them to a team working in one of the following areas: seniors issues -- group homes -- domestic violence -- homeless families -- family dispute resolution -- teen pregnancy -- runaway teens -- multi-racial/ethnic families.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,



THOMAS F. COLEMAN
Special Consultant

FINAL SCHEDULE -- TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Activity:</u>	<u>Comment:</u>
7-20-87	All Team Reports submitted	
7-28-87	Coleman begins draft of main report (see attached writing schedule)	
9-1-87	Hearing Transcript delivered to printer (500 copies to be printed)	
9-15-87	Supplements delivered to GTE (Team Reports and Student Papers: 500 copies to be printed)	
11-1-87	Hearing Transcripts and Supplements received back from printers	
1-14-88	Coleman completes draft of main report	
1-19-88	USC law student class project begins: developing implementation strategies for various Task Force proposals (student papers will be completed in May, 1988)	
1-16-88	Draft of main report mailed to Task Force members for review	
2-1-88	<u>Final Meeting of Task Force</u> (adopt main report / vote on recommendations)	
2-3-88	Coleman revises main report per vote and instructions at final Task Force meeting	
2-12-88	Final Report given to GTE for printing (GTE needs 60 days to complete typesetting, graphics, printing, and binding)	
4-12-88	Receive 2,000 copies of report from GTE	
4-15-88	Invitations mailed to Task Force members, all project participants and 200 guests for ceremony releasing report to public	
4-27-88	Tentative date to issue press release re: Task Force findings and recommendations	
4-28-88	<u>Tentative date for morning press conference</u> <u>and even ceremony to release final report,</u> hearing transcript, and supplement	

COLEMAN'S WRITING SCHEDULE FOR FINAL REPORT

THIS IS
WHAT I'M
DOING EACH
DAY!

1.	July	27	(Mon)	Method of Study
2.		28	(Tues)	American Families
3.		30	(Thurs)	American Families
4.		31	(Fri)	American Families
5.	Aug	05	(Wed)	California Families
6.		06	(Thurs)	California Families
7.		07	(Fri)	California Families
8.		12	(Wed)	Los Angeles County Families
9.		13	(Thurs)	Los Angeles County Families
10.		19	(Wed)	Definition of "Family" and Public Policy
11.		20	(Thurs)	Definition of "Family" and Public Policy
12.		21	(Fri)	Los Angeles City Household Demographics
13.		23	(Mon)	Los Angeles City Household Demographics
14.		25	(Tues)	Housing Issues
15.		26	(Wed)	Housing Issues
17.		27	(Thurs)	Insurance Issues
18.		28	(Fri)	Insurance Issues
19.	Sept	03	(Thurs)	Employment Issues
20.		04	(Fri)	Employment Issues
21.		10	(Thurs)	Crimes Against Families
22.		11	(Fri)	Crimes Against Families
23.		17	(Thurs)	Abuse Within Families
24.		18	(Fri)	Abuse Within Families
25.		24	(Thurs)	Education and Public Schools
26.		25	(Fri)	Education and Public Schools
27.		28	(Mon)	City Agencies and Services
28.		29	(Tues)	City Agencies and Services
29.		30	(Wed)	City Agencies and Services
30.	Oct	15	(Thurs)	Religion and Families
31.		16	(Fri)	Religion and Families
32.		22	(Thurs)	Media and Families
33.		23	(Fri)	Media and Families
34.		29	(Thurs)	The Nuclear Family
35.		30	(Fri)	Dual-Career Families
36.	Nov	04	(Wed)	Blended (Step) Families
37.		05	(Thurs)	Single-Parent Families
38.		06	(Fri)	Single-Parent Families
39.		11	(Wed)	Extended Families
40.		12	(Thurs)	Families of Color
41.		13	(Fri)	Families of Color
42.		18	(Wed)	Immigrant Families
43.		19	(Thurs)	Immigrant Families
44.		20	(Fri)	One-Person Households
45.	Dec	03	(Thurs)	Domestic Partnership Families
46.		04	(Fri)	Domestic Partnership Families
47.		10	(Thurs)	Families with Disabled Members
48.		11	(Fri)	Families with Disabled Members
49.		17	(Thurs)	Families with Senior Members
50.		18	(Fri)	Families with Senior Members
51.		28	(Mon)	Foster Families
52.		29	(Tues)	Group Homes
53.		30	(Wed)	Institutional Living
54.	Jan	04	(Mon)	Letter of Transmittal; Table of Contents
55.		05	(Tues)	Appendices
56.	Jan	06, 07, 08, 11, 13, and 14		= Revisions to Text
62.	Jan	16	(Sat)	Draft of Report Mailed to TF Members

TO: Task Force Members & Advisors

FROM: Christopher McCauley
Nora Baladerian,
Co-Chairs

RE: Revised & Final Schedule

DATE: August 6, 1987

Final Meeting of Task Force Rescheduled:

A few months ago, we anticipated that the final meeting of the Task Force (for voting on recommendations) would be September 23. As you can see from the revised schedule, this is not possible. Please note that the September 23 meeting is cancelled. We expect the final meeting to be held during the week of February 1, 1988. You will be notified at least two weeks before the final meeting of the exact date.

Transcript of Hearings Almost Complete:

The transcript of the Public Hearings has been typed. It is over 300 pages (single spaced). We plan to have it printed in September and will mail each member a copy as soon as possible.

Supplements Are In Process:

We have received the team reports. Some of them came in almost two months late, but, as they say, "Better late than never." We will be publishing a Supplement to the main report, in two separate documents. Supplement -- Part One will contain all team reports (approx. 550 pages). Supplement -- Part Two will contain student research papers (approx. 350 pages). General Telephone will print 500 copies of each part during October.

Writing of Main Report is Underway:

Tom Coleman has started writing the draft of the main report. His writing schedule is attached. As you can see, we plan to have sections of the final report on issues which were not covered by any team. This will give the report a more comprehensive scope. If you have any materials to share with Tom on some of these extra topics (Nuclear Families, Dual-Career Families, Single-Parent Families, Blended Families, Families of Color, Foster Families, Group Homes, Institutional Living, Crimes Against Families, or City Agencies and Services) please call him or send him the material in the mail as soon as possible.

Summer Party Was a Success:

The Task Force party at Elizabeth Clark's house was a success. Many thanks to Elizabeth for having us over, and to those who brought the many and varied foods and desserts.

TO: TASK FORCE ON FAMILY DIVERSITY - Team Members
FROM: Christopher McCauley, Co-Chair
RE: Draft of Final Report: Your Comments Are Requested
DATE: DEC 31, 1987

As you know, Tom Coleman has been writing a draft of the Final Report of the Task Force. He has completed a section of the draft pertaining to the subject matter of your team. A copy of that section is enclosed for your review.

Please read the section and give us any comments you may have. Please write your comments directly on the draft. Please **return the section, with your comments, to our report consultant, Jay Kohorn, within two weeks.** If no comments are returned, we will assume that you are pleased with the section.

Jay will review comments from co-chairs and relevant team members, incorporating his own editorial suggestions, and recommend revisions to Tom. In order to expedite the process, we need your prompt attention and participation.

As background papers, we will be publishing the full text of your team report in the Supplement to the Final Report, along with the student papers and public hearing transcript. However, because of space limitations and political considerations, the final report of the entire Task Force must condense topical sections and contain only the most critical recommendations. Whereas some teams made as many as 15 recommendations each, the final report can contain only a few recommendations per section -- or we won't be taken seriously by our critics. Even with these restrictions, we will still make about 75 to 100 recommendations overall.

We anticipate completing the draft by early January, after which you will receive a copy of the entire draft. A meeting will be scheduled for the first week of February, at which will adopt the report and vote on recommendations. With a two month printing process, the final report will be ready for release to the public in April 1988. Sometime in April, we plan to have a ceremony (with all project participants and invited guests in attendance) at which the report will be presented to Councilman Woo and at which Councilman Woo will acknowledge those who contributed to the project.

RETURN THE SECTION, WITH YOUR COMMENTS ON IT, TO:
Jay M. Kohorn
P.O. Box 2565
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

TASK FORCE ON FAMILY DIVERSITY

Meeting -- February 1, 1988

AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks
2. Final Report Process
 - a. Background Papers
 1. Submitted as of July 1988
 2. GTE will print as Supplements
 3. Used in writing draft of Final Report
 - b. Draft of Final Report
 1. Written during August through November
 2. Sections sent to Teams for review
 3. Suggestions from Teams being considered
 4. Full draft sent to all members for review
 5. Draft is being edited now
 - c. Vote on Recommendations
 1. Ballot sent to each member
 2. Tally: 19 ballots returned
15 not returned (yes by default)
 3. Recommendations with at least 3 "no" votes:
#14 -- demographics (city to count gays)
#21 -- housing (van service, youth projects)
#24 -- housing (minimum wage)
#53 -- education (more and earlier on gays)
#106 -- religion (urge groups to study)