



**OF TARRANT COUNTY**

July 25, 1996

*Food p. bio*  
*8/7/96*

George Gerbner, Ph.D.  
Professor and Dean Emeritus  
The Annenberg School for Communications  
234 Golf View Rd.  
Ardmore, Pa. 19003-1002

Dear Professor Gerbner,

The Citizens Crime Commission of Tarrant County is sponsoring a national conference "*Selling Violence is Killing Our Kids*" October 23-26 in Fort Worth, Texas and I am writing to request your assistance. This national conference will be dealing with the positive and negative influences of media on sex, drugs, gangs, crime and violence. The sight of the conference will be the Worthington Hotel in Fort Worth and will be held in conjunction with our annual 5K Walk Out on Crime and Crime Prevention Fair.

The focus of the conference will be on the role of media in reporting, or promoting violence in our society. Our intent is not to advocate censorship nor to bash media but rather to increase awareness of messages of violence which research indicates motivates individuals to commit violent acts. Our goal is for conference participants to become better informed about subtle and overt messages of violence in media and to recognize and accept their individual responsibilities in creating an environment which does not perpetuate violence.

I am enclosing a copy of our draft conference agenda for you to review. I was fortunate to hear your presentation and keynote address at the Children & Violence Conference in Houston, Texas in 1994. I know that you have a wealth of experience and ideas on the matter of media and how it effects drugs and violence, and that you know people across the country who would be excellent faculty and/or participants for our conference who we need to invite. We welcome and invite your suggestions. We have local and national support for the conference to include OJJDP, FBI, DOJ, WFAA-TV (ABC), Fort Worth Star Telegram, and all local law enforcement agencies just to name a few.

*Patsy Jones*  
*Exec Dir*

903 Summit Ave. • Fort Worth, Texas 76102 • (817) 877-5161 • FAX (817) 877-0443

*Join Us In Creating A Safer Community*

Because of the focus of our conference and your personal interest on this important issue, I hope that you or your representative will be able to join us. As I mentioned on the phone, we can take care of expenses, lodging, and transportation for you or your representative. If your schedule does not permit you to attend, I hope that you will help us identify someone in your field that represents your views. I do understand that you have a previous engagement on the afternoon of October 24, 1996. Maybe we can utilize your expertise on Friday October 25, 1996. Please review our conference agenda and advise us of any possibilities to hear your presentation.

I look forward to hearing from you at the earliest possible date, and appreciate any direction and assistance you can offer. I would also like to discuss the possibility of purchasing or obtaining a copy of your findings or reports regarding the media, video games, ratings, etc. and how media affects drugs and violence. If you should have any questions or comments please contact me or our Executive Director, Ms. Patsy Thomas. Thanks in advance for any help or commitment you can make.

Sincerely,



Ramon Jacquez  
Director of Programs



Called - 8/16/90  
Boo & PK  
Patsy Thomas

August 8, 1996

Dr. George Gerbner, Dean Emeritus  
The Annenberg School for Communication  
University of Pennsylvania  
3624 Market Street, One-East  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Dear Dr. Gerbner:

We are very pleased that you will be part of our distinguished faculty for our conference in October. Thank you for sending your biographical information. If you have a current photograph available, we would appreciate a copy to use in our marketing. As we discussed, you will present a plenary session from 10 until 11 am. on Friday, October 25 at the Worthington Hotel.

As you requested, we will list your topic as "*What We're Up Against*". You will provide information from 25 years of research defining cultural violence, describing what drives it, and giving specific information about how the public can address the problem. It is my understanding that you plan to speak about 30 minutes and allow an additional 30 minutes for questions from the audience.

The Crime Commission will pay for your air travel, hotel accommodations, and related expenses including a \$1500 honorarium. Please let us know your travel plans at your earliest convenience so that we can arrange for your ticket. The hotel is approximately a 30 minute drive from DFW Airport.

Please let me know if there are any changes to our arrangement. We look forward to having you as part of our program.

Sincerely,

Patsy Thomas  
Executive Director



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Patsy Thomas  
*Executive Director*

October 9, 1996

George Gerbner, Ph.D.  
Professor and Dean Emeritus  
The Annenberg School for Communications  
234 Golf View Road  
Ardmore, Pa 19003-1002

Dear Professor Gerbner:

Thank you for agreeing to be a presenter for one of our "*Selling Violence Is Killing Our Kids*" conference sessions. Your presentation is scheduled on October 25, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. The conference room will be set-up with audio visual equipment including microphones, overheads, video and sound capabilities. If you should have any special needs outside the norm, please let me know.

We have made your travel arrangements with U.S. Air at the times you had requested. Enclosed are your airline tickets for your travel to and from Fort Worth on October 24, 1996. Someone will meet you at the Dallas /Fort Worth airport. Please look for someone holding a sign with your name. You will be escorted to the Worthington Hotel where a room has been reserved for you. We will also provide transportation back to DFW airport for your return flight on Friday, October 25. If you should have any questions or special needs prior to our conference please contact me at (817) 877-5161.

Sincerely,

Ramon Jacquez  
Director of Programs



**OF TARRANT COUNTY**

October 30, 1996

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Patsy Thomas  
*Executive Director*

Dr. George Gerbner  
Professor and Dean Emeritus  
The Annenberg School for Communications  
234 Golf View Road  
Ardmore, Pa. 19003-1002


Dear Dr. Gerbner:


On behalf of the Citizens Crime Commission and the Conference Committees, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for your Thursday presentation on What We're Up Against during our Conference "*Selling Violence Is Killing Our Kids.*"

Your presentation was very informative and all who attended expressed their appreciation and enlightenment on the subject, especially in the data and research defining cultural violence. The conference participants were overwhelmed with the information you provided, which I hope will translate to some action or personal responsibility that will benefit communities and youth. The comments I received from the evaluations are exceptional, especially on your delivery and knowledge in the subject areas.

I wish to thank you personally for all the assistance provided in helping us with our conference. Without your help and dedication we could not have shared in the conference successes. I hope we can count on you and your expertise to be part of any future projects. Knowing you had to adjust your busy schedule, I really appreciate your dedication and professionalism. Thank you for helping us create safer communities.

Sincerely,

  
Patsy Thomas  
Executive Director

  
Ramon Jacquez  
Director of Programs