

STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR USE IN BOOKLET PREPARED BY SOUTH CAROLINA WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH. OCTOBER 26, 1950.

Today we in South Carolina may look forward with greater confidence than ever before to a shining future. Whether we attain our goals of greater happiness and prosperity depends upon the way in which we utilize our human resources, for progress must depend most of all upon people.

No problem, therefore, is of greater importance than that of the proper care of our children, and this problem should be attacked with all the energy we have.

Much has been accomplished but a great deal remains to be done if we are to protect the welfare of our children. We must give them greater educational advantages, and encourage better school attendance. We need a statewide system of juvenile courts, and our laws relating to child labor should be modernized. We should strengthen our adoption laws, and repeal the ancient statute permitting the deeding of children. We should provide better health services, including medical and dental examinations for children entering school. These are a few of the things that we can and should do, from the community level upward.

Perhaps the greatest single need is for concerted planning on all levels for child welfare. We can only hope to build a better world for our children by studying our needs carefully, and then working together harmoniously to see that those needs are met.

The facts presented in this booklet represent a long step in the direction of coordinated action. The White House Conference on Children and Youth is not merely a national attempt to solve the problems of child care. It is a local and State effort which has enlisted the devoted activity of organizations and individuals in every county of South Carolina. The Conference offers an excellent medium for the cooperation of all groups for the benefit of our children, and some of the effectiveness of its work may be seen in this publication.

Original  
J. Strom Thurmond  
Governor

It has been said that children are the tomorrow of society. We in South Carolina should recognize that fact, if we are to make ours a brighter tomorrow. I feel confident the people of South Carolina will meet this challenge.