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**Collection:** Speechwriting, White House Office  
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**Folder Title:** Nancy Reagan: Teacher of the Year  
Awards. April 15, 1982  
**Box:** 435

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(Parvin/AB)  
April 14, 1982  
11:00 a.m.

MRS. REAGAN: TEACHER OF THE YEAR REMARKS  
APRIL 15, 1982

-- Thank you. If my husband were here, as he originally hoped to be, no doubt he would start off with a humorous story. In fact, before he left for Chicago, I asked him to loan me an anecdote. So he said to tell you about the young boy whose homework paper was less than inspiring. When the boy's paper was handed back, the teacher said, "I never saw so many errors in my life. I just can't understand how one person could have made all these mistakes." The little boy answered, "One person didn't . . . my father helped."

-- Well, today we're here to discuss not what's wrong, but what's right -- what's right and admirable and uplifting about teachers like Bruce Brombacher. I feel a special affinity with Bruce because he shares a deep concern of mine -- drug abuse among our young people. Bruce did some drug counseling while in the military and he currently is active in the school drug abuse program.

-- Now, as you may have noticed, Bruce is 6'4". And after reading some background information on him, I've decided he has to be that big to hold all his ideals and principles. As you know, many decent and dedicated men have been quoted in this house. Let me quote one by the name of Bruce Brombacher: "I try to extend an invitation to learn to each

student I meet. . . I try to make it possible for all my students to be successful at tasks that suit their talents and to see that someone loves them and cares about what they accomplish."

-- Well, Bruce, we are here today to pay tribute to what you have accomplished. And in honoring you, we also honor other teachers of your commitment and caliber, who are so conscientiously shaping our Nation's future. So as First Lady, let me congratulate you on this award, and thank you for being so positive a force on America's children. And as a mother, let me say how lucky our children are to have a teacher with your inspiring philosophy. Thank you.

--Now as you may have noticed Bruce is 6'4". And after reading some background information on him, I've decided ~~I know~~

~~why he is that large.~~ he has to be that big to hold all his <sup>as you know many</sup> ~~ideals and principles.~~ <sup>decident and dedicated</sup> ~~For the man~~ <sup>men have been quoted</sup> ~~Because he genuinely is~~

<sup>in this house. Let me quote one by the name of Bruce Brambacher:</sup>  
~~a man of decency and commitment.~~

~~Let me read you something he has said.~~ "I try to extend an invitation to learn, to each student I meet ~~every day.~~ . . . I try to make it possible for all my students ~~to have a chance~~ to be successful at tasks that suit their talents and to see that ~~someone~~ <sup>for</sup> one loves them and cares about what they accomplish." <sup>-TP</sup> Well, Bruce, we are here today to pay tribute to <sup>what</sup> ~~want~~ you have accomplished.

<sup>So as the First Lady,</sup>

~~So Bruce~~ let me congratulate you on this award, and thank you for being so positive a force on America's children. And as a mother, let me ~~add a personal note~~ <sup>inspire</sup> say how

<sup>lucky our children are to have a teacher with your philosophy. Thank you.</sup>

And in honoring you, we also honor other teachers of your commitment and caliber, who are so conscientiously shaping our Nation's future

(Parvin/B)  
April 12, 1982  
2:30 p.m.

MRS. REAGAN: TEACHER OF THE YEAR REMARKS  
APRIL 15, 1982

-- Thank you. If my husband were here, as he originally hoped to be, no doubt he would start off with a humorous story. *So in*

*fact,* before he left for Chicago, I asked him to loan me an anecdote. So he said <sup>to</sup> tell <sup>you</sup> ~~them~~ about the young boy whose homework paper was less than inspiring. When ~~the~~ <sup>the boy's</sup> paper was handed back, the teacher said, "I never saw so many errors in my life. I just can't understand how one person could have made all these mistakes." The little boy answered, "One person didn't . . . my father helped."

-- Well, today we're here to discuss not what's wrong, but what's right -- what's right and admirable and uplifting about teachers like Bruce Brombacher. I feel a special affinity with Bruce because he shares a deep concern of mine -- drug abuse among our young people. Bruce did some drug counseling while in the military and he currently is active in the school drug abuse program.

-- I wish all teachers were as aware of the drug threat facing us. The problems confronting teachers today are so different from those of a generation ago. At one time a child's behavior could be corrected by having him repeatedly write his sin on the blackboard. Unfortunately, our

children's lives today are so complex, writing "I will not use drugs" 100 times is no deterrent.

-- The importance of the teacher's role has grown over the years from education <sup>or</sup> ~~ion~~ and disciplinarian to psychologist and role model. I think Bruce will tell you how essential teachers are in contributing to a child's self-worth, and a sense of self-worth is essential to keeping kids off drugs.

-- So Bruce let me congratulate you on this award, and thank you for being so positive a force on America's children. And in honoring you, we also honor other teachers of your commitment and caliber, who are so conscientiously shaping our Nation's future.

(Parvin)  
April 12, 1982  
2:30 p.m.

MRS. REAGAN: TEACHER OF THE YEAR REMARKS  
APRIL 15, 1982

-- Thank you. If my husband were here, as he originally hoped to be, no doubt he would start off with a humorous story. So before he left for Chicago, I asked him to loan me an anecdote. So he said tell them about the young boy whose homework paper was less than inspiring. When his paper was handed back, the teacher said, "I never saw so many errors in my life. I just can't understand how one person could have made all these mistakes." The little boy answered, "One person didn't . . . my father helped."

-- Well, today we're here to discuss not what's wrong, but what's right -- what's right and admirable and uplifting about teachers like Bruce Brombacher. I feel a special affinity with Bruce because he shares a deep concern of mine -- drug abuse among our young people. Bruce did some drug counseling while in the military and he currently is active in the school drug abuse program.

-- I wish all teachers were as aware of the drug threat facing us. The problems confronting teachers today are so different from those of a generation ago. At one time a child's behavior could be corrected by having him repeatedly write his sin on the blackboard. Unfortunately, our

children's lives today are so complex, writing "I will not use drugs" 100 times is no deterrent.

- The importance of the teacher's role has grown over the years from education and disciplinarian to psychologist and role model. I think Bruce will tell you how essential teachers are in contributing to a child's self-worth, and a sense of self-worth is essential to keeping kids off drugs.
- So Bruce let me congratulate you on this award, and thank you for being so positive a force on America's children. And in honoring you, we also honor other teachers of your commitment and caliber, who are so conscientiously shaping our Nation's future.



(Parwin)

MRS. REAGAN: TEACHER OF THE YEAR REMARKS

April 15, 1982

--Thank you. If my husband were here, as he originally hoped to be, no doubt he would start off with a humorous story. So before he left for Chicago, I asked him to loan me an anecdote. So he said tell them about the young boy whose homework paper was ~~something~~ less than inspiring. When ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> paper ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> handed back, the teacher said, "I never saw so many errors. I just can't understand how one person could have made all ~~these~~ <sup>in my life</sup> mistakes." The little boy answered, "One person didn't. . .my father helped."

--Well, today we're here to discuss not what's wrong, but what's right--what's right and ~~wonderful~~ <sup>admirable</sup> and uplifting about teachers like Bruce Brombacher. ~~You know~~ I feel a special affinity with Bruce because he shares a deep concern of mine--<sup>among our young</sup> drug abuse. ~~He~~ <sup>he</sup> did some drug counseling while in the military and ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> is currently active in the school drug abuse program. ~~we're so aware of the drug problem that facing is.~~ <sup>all teachers</sup> ~~the problems~~ <sup>confronting</sup> teachers ~~face~~ today are so different from those of a generation ago. At one time a child's behavior could be corrected by ~~writing the sin on the blackboard 100 times.~~ <sup>having him write repeatedly write his</sup> Unfortunately, our children's lives today are so complex, writing ~~"I will not use drugs"~~ <sup>100 times</sup> ~~on the board~~ is no deterrent. ~~at all~~

--The importance of the teacher's role has grown over the years. ~~from educator to disciplinarian to psychologist and role model.~~ <sup>essential to keeping kids off drugs.</sup> I think Bruce will tell you how essential teachers are in contributing to a child's self-worth, and a sense of self-worth is an integral part of drug use prevention.

--So Bruce let me congratulate you on this award, and  
~~on behalf of America's parents, let me also~~ thank you for being  
so positive a force on <sup>America's</sup> ~~our~~ children. And in honoring you, we  
also honor other teachers of your commitment and caliber, who  
are so conscientiously shaping our Nation's future.