

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 10, 2002

Miss America Erika Harold
The Miss America Organization
Two Miss America Way, Suite 1000
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Dear Miss Harold:

Please accept our heartfelt congratulations on being crowned Miss America 2003. You have been given a tremendous honor, and we encourage you to continue to use your national platform to bring your message of hope and health to our nation's youth.

As a role model for students all over the country, we appreciate your steadfast commitment to addressing the issue of youth violence and to promoting abstinence-until-marriage as the only sure way for our nation's youth to protect themselves from the consequences of teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

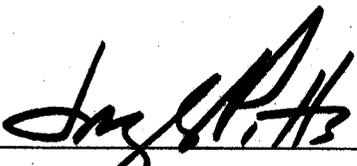
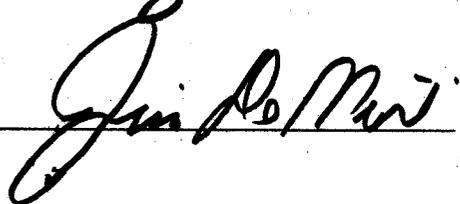
Recent news reports have suggested that some people would rather you not publicly discuss your commitment to abstinence education. Yet, as Members of Congress who have presided over the successful implementation of federal abstinence-until-marriage education programs, we know how important it is to speak publicly and honestly about the emotional and physical risks and dangers facing our nation's youth and the promises and opportunities that come with abstinence-until-marriage.

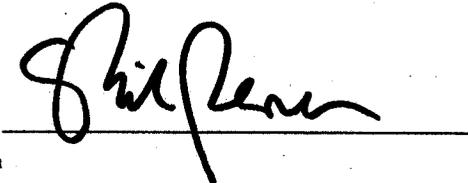
After winning the Miss America crown, you said a young girl from an inner-city Chicago school sent you a note saying, "You changed my life because of what you said, and now I made the decision to be abstinent because of what you said. And I really hope that as Miss America you continue to share that because it changed my life and I think it can change lots of others."

How honorable it is to know that you have positively affected even one precious child's life. We commend you for continuing to bring your message of hope and health to more children like this.

Miss Harold, we encourage you to stand strong in your commitment and your willingness to stand up for your beliefs and promote the healthy message of abstinence until marriage. You are an outstanding role model and we wish you the very best both now and in the future. Keep up the great work.

Sincerely,

Dan Burt

Mark Smith

Kevin Brady

John Dabille CA-04

Judy

Sam Johnson

John Hostetler

Lee Myrick

Melissa Hunt

Chris Cox

Ken

Virgil Grode

Walter B. Jones

W. Todd Alvin

Isis Guttentag

Paul Ryan

Todd Tishit

Al Zeln

Al Hodge

Lamar Smith

Ernest Jotook

Clare Smith

J Rudy Mabes

Tom DeLay

Cliff Sperry

Robert B. Harbert

Bradlett

Jo Ann Davis

Dad Vitte

Tom LANCHELO

Robin Hayes

John Dullin

Bob Slapfer

Mark Gander
