

My Friends:

Today is the day for you and me to teach all young men and women the true meaning of loving themselves and others. It's time for us to show them that we care and we really want to help them be successful in life.

Today our young people are in a crossfire. More children are killed by guns than all natural diseases combined. Kids are two-times as likely to be involved in violence than adults. Primarily because children believe guns help them get the respect they want.

Children believe what they see. If they see violence being the answer to their families and friends' problems, they believe the same could work for them. The problem with what they see depicted on TV is that it's as real as what they see at home and in the streets.

Why do kids carry guns? There are (3) reasons that I know of from personal experience.

1. Inquisitiveness - The itch of intuition. 2. Fear - The mind's cue for revolt. 3. Wrongdoing - The muscle of misconduct.

For most urban youth, violence is all they know. When push comes to shove, virtue transforms to violence. Kids get tired of having to go without. They get tired of being pushed around. They get tired of living in fear. And when they get tired, they get angry. And anger is the tornado that blows out the light of righteousness in that little world we call the mind.

So I speak out not in anger but in love. There can be no great concern where there is no great love. I want all young men and women to know that the privileges they endure today did not come without suffering and sacrifices. I want us to teach them other methods for solving their problems.

One example is conflict management. Many schools across the nation use students as conflict managers - kids who resolve problems with other kids. It's a known fact that kids rather talk with their peers rather than their principals - mainly out of fear of getting in trouble.

Conflict management works but it all starts with you and me. It's a shame if we say we love our children and on a daily basis we're not doing everything we can to save them.

No child is incapable of being saved. Any child's death or incarceration upsets me, because every child has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Unless you've been involved with crime, drugs and violence, you really don't know what to do to save our children. But have no fear, I wrote the book: How To Save Our Children From Crime, Drugs and Violence just for you. Don't hesitate or wait - go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and order it today.

You have no need to worry about the future, we will reach our goal of saving at-risk youth from premature death and incarceration, because the goal of God Almighty is for all men, women and children to be saved.

The survival of America depends on the survival of it's children. They must be exposed to all the things that will promote excellence and the pursuit of prosperity. When they feel they have something to offer, they will feel different about participating in crime, drugs and violence.

Yours for the cause of Love and Peace,

Cedric Dean