

programs we've developed mean to that child if they don't learn the concept of conscience and reward before the age of three? . . .

"The time is for bold and new ideas. But you've got to be able to sell it, and the good lawyer is the great salesman—not in the courtroom, but selling America that we've got to invest in children, that for every dollar invested in early care, we're going to save vast dollars for the taxpayer. . . .

"I remember my afternoons after school and in the evenings. During the summertime my mother worked in the home and my father worked downtown. My mother taught us what we knew about the poets, about Beethoven's symphonies, how to play baseball and to bake a cake. She spanked the living daylights out of us, she taught us to play fair, and she loved us with all her heart. And there is no childcare in the world that will ever be a substitute for what that lady was in our lives. . . . Somehow or other, if we can send men to the moon, we can develop a system that puts families and children first while at the same time giving both parents the opportunity to achieve professional fulfillment. The law is an incredible instrument for good. We should return it to the people, to the children of America, to give the children a shield as well."

MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund

Edelman gave a strong speech to the class of '93, assembled with parents and friends, some 3,000 in all, in Tercentenary Theatre on Wednesday afternoon. She spoke about how to lead one's life,

saying "the things your parents want to say but can't." And she couldn't resist making some points about children in America.

"A child drops out every eight seconds of the school day. Every thirteen seconds an American child is abused or neglected. Every 26



Marian Wright Edelman

seconds as we sit here one of our children will run away from home. Every minute an American child has a child. Every seven minutes an American child is arrested for a drug offense. Every half-hour one of our children is arrested for drunken driving. Every 53 minutes in this rich land a child dies from poverty. It's disgraceful that we let infants and toddlers be the poorest Americans.

"But the fact that worries me even more is the fact that an American child dies every three hours from gunshot wounds. Every three days we lose 25 children, the equivalent of a classroom full, to guns and violence. And we're standing for it. I ask each of us today, is our moral and social development so arrested that we are afraid of standing up to the NRA even when the prey is helpless children?"

LYNN MARTIN

Former United States secretary of labor

Lynn Martin spent this spring as a fellow at the Institute of Politics. She gave the class day speech at the Kennedy School of Government on Wednesday afternoon.



Lynn Martin

"A school that wisely looks to provide leadership for the future," said Martin, "must also look at itself. It is

simply not acceptable to have a school of the stature of the Kennedy School of Government talking about what to do about poverty, what to do about the issues of governance, what to do about the future of this place, this country, this planet, without a tenured woman, without a tenured African American. . . .

"There are those who say, 'Give it more time.' That is an excuse. . . . If there is no change, the future will pass even this great institution by.

"It is also true when changes occur, other changes must follow. You do not educate huge groups of people . . . and then tell them to stay out of the decision-making process. Just as you cannot have a school maintain its position if it cannot have the best, a nation cannot maintain its position without striving for excellence. To exclude any group is not appropriate, nor does it suit the needs of

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Rising to applause, honorand Ravi Shankar listens as President Rudenstine reads his citation.

Roll of Honor

Fourteen guests were awarded degrees honoris causa at Harvard's 342d Commencement. In order of presentation, they were:

Israeli sociologist **Shmuel Eisenstadt**, who studies cultural impacts of modernization. Doctor of laws: *From his outpost on Mount Scopus, he has charted the*



Susan Sontag carries a diploma and a pink balloon out of Tercentenary Theatre.