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Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026  
April 2, 1996

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Nine Mile Board of Directors  
W 10103 Charles Rd  
Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026

Ms Johnston, Nine Mile Board of Directors,

In December, 1995, the Nine Mile Falls School Board gave their approval to implementing the DFT program in the Lakeside High School. The decision was not based on whether the program would perform as claimed, but rather on the desires of the students following a slick sell job by members of the Coeur d'Alene DFT program.

On March 15, 1996, a team of Idaho law enforcement officers equipped with 60 John Doe warrants and dogs descended on two Coeur d'Alene high schools looking for drugs. To quote the Spokesman Review article, "The administration was urged to take strong action by some parents alarmed at the extent of drug use among teenagers" seconded by student interviews. The DFT program was started in the Coeur d'Alene schools in 1989 - *seven years ago*. After seven years, there is still no data available proving the worth of the program or showing the program to have decreased drug use in the Coeur d'Alene schools. Quite obviously considering the actions of Idaho law enforcement officers on March 15, it has had little or no effect and is, therefore, a failure in its stated purpose. When this program surfaced in this district, I asked for the *validated research* proving it worked. Imagine how surprised I was to find there was none!!! But then, who cares if the program doesn't do what its proponents say it will!!

The program is, however, a great success in three areas. First, it rewards children for giving up their Constitutional right to privacy. Today their Constitutional rights; tomorrow, who knows -- maybe their right to be free from fear of illegal search and seizure. A little eroding here, a little eroding there -- who cares!! But then, how absurd of me...the Constitution is *that* outdated document written by a bunch of ignorant, self-serving Euro-males!!! That it established the ONLY true bastion of freedom in the world is really quite insignificant!!! Besides, we're AMERICA, we can trample on the Constitution all we want without consequence!!!! Second, it teaches children that they can get something for nothing, and at someone else's expense. Who cares about the American ethic that to remain free we must work for and earn what we get. After all, the socialist idea of something for nothing is always better!!! Third, it teaches children that the only reason for *not* doing something bad is for the reward. Who cares about teaching children right and wrong. We'll just treat them like rats in the Skinner Box and reward them for doing what we want them to!!!

We raise good, upstanding, productive citizens by teaching children these things! And if, after being taught all these destructive ideas/behaviors, the child turns out a mess, we can always blame the parents! We might even convince the government to give us more money for another social program to cure the ills created by this destructive program. And, of course, there is no ethical obligation to tell parents the truth about this misleading program because it's "voluntary".

If we really care about children, we cannot continue to allow programs with a track record in failure to operate in our schools, re-enforcing negative behaviors in their failure. When these behaviors go unchecked, more children will become involved, the problem will get bigger, not smaller. As made very clear by the Coeur d'Alene incident and by the absence of *validated research*, the DFT program has a track record in failure.

Sincerely,

Lynn M Stuter