volunteers put into public education campaigns, these terrible deaths will only be prevented if each and every one of us takes the responsibility to do something about it ourselves. The sad truth is these crashes are caused by people who know better but drink and drive anyway, hurting themselves and often hurting others. And don’t fool yourself, if you let a friend drive while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, you’re their accomplice as much as if you were behind the wheel yourself.

Preventing these disasters is simple. Stay away from drugs completely. They’re illegal, and they’re dangerous, and they’re liable to kill you in or out of a car. If you’re going to drink, be responsible. Do it in moderation and choose a designated driver who doesn’t drink at all. And if you see a friend about to get behind the wheel when you know it isn’t a good idea, take the keys away. It may not be easy at the moment, but it will be the greatest favor you may ever do for him or her.

Right after this radio address, I’m going to sign an order making this National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. December is a good month for that, not only because of the increased celebrating that goes with the holiday season but because the holiday season helps to bring out the best in all of us. It makes us think a little more about each other. It reminds us of the obligations we all share to improve our communities, to keep them safe and sound for our children and our grandchildren.

In that spirit, the best gift you can give anyone this year is a simple promise to yourself: If you’re going to drink, don’t get behind the wheel; if you see a friend about to, don’t let him. Make it a New Year’s resolution. Start to observe it today, and keep it for the rest of your life.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. The National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month proclamation is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on the Death of Elizabeth Glaser
December 3, 1994

Hillary and I are deeply saddened at Elizabeth Glaser’s passing. She was our friend and an inspiration to us as she was to millions of others. Our prayers are with Paul and Jake, her parents, and her brother.

Elizabeth confronted the challenge of AIDS in her own life and lost her beloved daughter to AIDS at a time when our Government and our country were too indifferent to this illness and the people who had it.

She refused to let that indifference stand, fighting bravely for more investment in AIDS research and better treatment and care, especially for children with AIDS. She enlisted Americans from both parties and all walks of life in her cause, and she awakened America to AIDS.

I will never forget what she said about her daughter in her address to the Democratic Convention:

“She taught me to love when all I wanted to do was hate. She taught me to help others when all I wanted to do was help myself. She taught me to be brave when all I felt was fear. My daughter and I loved each other with simplicity. America, we can do the same.”

We will all miss Elizabeth Glaser. We need more like her. We must honor her memory by finishing the work to which she gave everything she had.