Statement on People Magazine’s Decision To Print a Cover Story Featuring Chelsea Clinton
February 3, 1999

We deeply regret and are profoundly saddened by the decision of People magazine to print a cover story featuring our daughter, Chelsea. For over 6 years, the media has understood and respected the unique situation facing Chelsea as she grows up in the spotlight focused on her parents. Other than at public situations where she is an integral part of our family, Chelsea has not taken on a public role. We have been very grateful for the media’s restraint in allowing Chelsea the privacy that any young person needs and deserves.

Unfortunately, despite personal appeals with respect to her privacy and her security from her parents, People magazine has chosen to run the story. We can only hope that the media will continue its policy of restraint with respect to our daughter.

NOTE: This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary as a statement by the President and the First Lady.

Statement on Action Against Invasive Species
February 3, 1999

Today I am signing an Executive order directing Federal agencies to expand and coordinate their efforts to combat a serious environmental threat: the introduction and spread of plants and animals not native to the United States.

Many Americans are all too familiar with gypsy moths and other non-native insects that devour our gardens and trees. Few realize, however, that countless other non-native plants and animals are upsetting nature’s balance, squeezing out native species, causing severe economic damage, and transforming our landscape. Those affected range from western ranchers plagued by a weed called leafy spurge to Chicago homeowners whose stately maple trees have fallen prey to the Asian long-horned beetle. Some experts estimate the cost to the American economy to be as high as $123 billion a year.

The Executive order mobilizes the Federal Government to defend against these aggressive predators and pests. Led by the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce, Federal agencies will work together to prevent the introduction of non-native species and control those already here. My fiscal year 2000 budget proposes an additional $29 million to support these efforts, and I urge Congress to join us in protecting our economy and our natural heritage against the threat of non-native species.

NOTE: The Executive order is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for the “Marching Toward Justice” Exhibit
February 3, 1999

Thank you very much, Judge Keith, it’s good to be in your presence again. Mrs. Marshall; Rosa Parks; Mr. Hill, I’m honored to be in your presence, sir. President Swygert, President Reid, Mr. Meehan; to Congressman Clyburn and members of the Congressional Black Caucus