

- Only one of every two infants born in the District of Columbia and New Mexico were born to mothers who received adequate prenatal care. In New York, less than 40% of all black and non-white infants were born to mothers who received such care.

One serious problem with the report, is the fact that it never mentions the larger, more horrible hand AIDS is taking in infant deaths. This omission is all the more grievous because the authors analyze and present voluminous data regarding the country's ability to meet the Surgeon General's 1990 Infant Health Objectives. Those objectives, established in 1978, call for reducing infant mortality to no more than 9 deaths per 1,000 live births, with no county or racial or ethnic sub-group having an infant mortality rate in excess of 12 deaths per 1,000 live births, and similar criteria for neonatal and post-neonatal mortality rates, low birthweight rates, immunizations, maternal mortality, and prenatal care.

What has never been studied is the increased number of babies that die because of a decision based on "quality of life" or cost factors, made by the hospital, doctor, or family, not to treat a child who comes into the world with multiple physical handicaps. Like euthanasia and starvation decisions made for adult patients, rarely does the patient record state "consciously-induced death," but usually, "heart failure."

Overall, whether due to the closing of community hospitals, shortage of medical staff, or lack of an aggressive inoculation program, an increase in infant deaths are the predictable result of an overall economic policy. The general thrust of the CDF solution, besides being blinded on the AIDS epidemic, is to attempt survival in the status quo, with the addition of more appropriations to Medicaid or the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). This has improved black infant mortality by 49% since its inception, by preventing low birthweight babies. (Only 40% of the women, infants, and children eligible for these services actually received them.)

The solution to this appalling genocide is to reestablish the United States as the industrial leader in the Western hemisphere—starting with the most advanced space program—to revitalize the country, its industry, and the perspective on our children's education. The earlier stages of that project, the Apollo Moonshot, provided much of the life-saving technology available for babies (and others) today. Unfortunately, CDF's solution is to attack the funding of the Strategic Defense Initiative for depriving the WIC program of funding. This is predictable, since CDF President Marion Wright Edelman is tightly connected socially and politically to liberal Ted Kennedy.

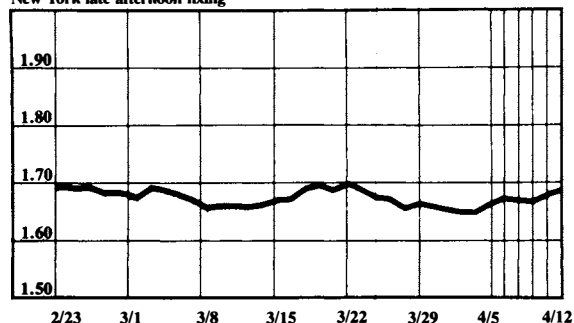
Reference

The Health of America's Children: Maternal and Child Health Data Book, by Dana Hughs, Kay Johnson, Sara Rosenbaum, Elizabeth Butler, and Janet Simons. Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention: Prenatal Care Campaign, Children's Defense Fund, 1988, 265 pages paperbound, \$12.95.

Currency Rates

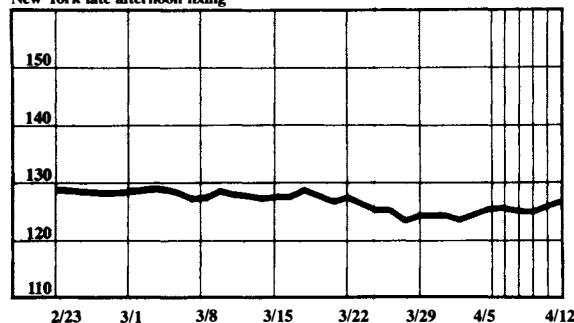
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



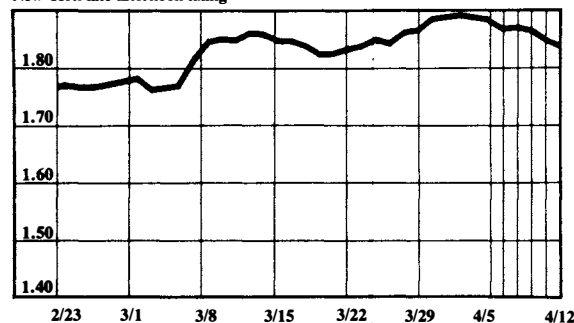
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

