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March 14, 1995

Mr. Thomas Coleman, Executive Director
Family Diversity Project
Spectrum Institute
P.O. Box 65756
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Dear Mr. Coleman:

You will be pleased to know that the Women's Initiative's research report on midlife and older people who live in nontraditional households is just about ready for production and publication. As I near completion of this research project, I just wanted to thank you once again for sharing your expertise with us.

As you know, we found that more than 5 million midlife and older persons live in nontraditional households with extended families, partners, roommates, grandchildren, live-in employees, and in many other sorts of arrangements. We also found that individuals living in such households are often treated less favorably under public policies than traditional families.

Your organization is the only one we found that has extensively documented the treatment of nontraditional families under public policy. We found the studies in which Spectrum Institute participated to be well-researched and well-written, and we relied on several of them in our research report. Please keep up the fine work you do to document and advocate for diversity in family and living arrangements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deborah Chalfie".

Deborah Chalfie
Women's Initiative