



City of Cambridge

R-41.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 26, 2004

COUNCILLOR DAVIS
VICE MAYOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR MURPHY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
MAYOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

- WHEREAS: In a ten-year study of neighborhoods and crime rates, Dr. Felton Earls, professor of human behavior and development, Harvard School of Public Health, has found strong support for the theory that the most important influence on a neighborhood's crime rate is the willingness of neighbors to act, when needed, for another neighbor's benefit and, especially for the benefit of one another's children; and
- WHEREAS: This highly regarded study, funded by the National Institute of Justice (\$18 million to date) and the MacArthur Foundation (\$23 million to date) and other government agencies (\$10 million to date) challenges the conventionally popular "broken windows" theory that physical and social disorder lead to increased crime such that an unrepaired broken window will result in bigger acts of disorderly behavior in a neighborhood; and
- WHEREAS: Dr. Earls points to the policy implication that rather than focusing on arresting squeegee men and graffiti writers, local governments should focus on supporting the development of cooperative efforts, such as community gardens, in low-income neighborhoods; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record commending Dr. Felton Earls for his extremely significant research and compelling findings on the importance of neighborhood cooperation and mutual caring on the fabric of the community; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Dr. Felton Earls on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council January 26, 2004.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

RES 2004 # 110

RESOLUTION #41

Commend Dr. Felton Earls, professor of human behavior and development, Harvard School of Public Health for his extremely significant research and and compelling findings on the importance of neighborhood cooperation and mutual caring on the fabric of the community.

Councillor Davis and entire membership

In City Council January 26, 2004

ORDER ADOPTED