Other Justifications for TARA

• Detailed review of the worlds demographies
• Traditional parenting is being supplanted by a new vision that
  – embraces the lone individual
  – the networked single
  – the childless couple
• Thus, more of the child’s education will necessarily take place outside the home and in preschools.
Percent of children in single mother homes by education of the mother

Benefits of Early Reading

• Universal Literacy
  – Equivalent to Spoken Language

• Brain Guided Resources
  – Sensitive Period in Early Development

• Reduce Cost of Reading Instruction
  – 5% of Current Cost

• Advantages of Written Language
  – Richer Language and Content
Success of Proposal

- Economic: Return on Investment
- Hearing Loss and Deafness
- Increase Time Spent Reading
- Rethinking Schooling
Economic Consideration

• The United States spends 2.4 times as much on the elderly as on children, measured on a per capita basis.
• The ratio rising to 7 to 1 if looking just at the federal budget.
Figure 12. Rates of return to human capital investment in disadvantaged children

Nobel Prize winner James Heckman

Economic Reasons for Early Intervention

Abilities are important for a productive workforce

Gaps that emerge early are difficult to change

Skill begets skill and learning begets more learning

Early education can mitigate poor family environments.

K-12 schooling comes too late
Success of Proposal

• Economic: Return on Investment
• Hearing Loss and Deafness
• Increase Time Spent Reading
• Rethinking Schooling
• Brain Guided Resources
Increasing Hearing Loss in Teens

Slight Loss increased 30% in the last 15 years Mild or worse hearing loss increased 77%

Pete Townsend The Who

Journal of the American Medical Association
The Deaf Child

- High School Graduates
  - Read at 4th Grade Level
- 95% of Parents Talk
- Bootstrap with Written Language
  - Advantages of Bilingualism
  - Access to World’s Knowledge
  - Opens Communication to the Hearing Community
Success of Proposal

- Economic: Return on Investment
- Hearing Loss and Deafness
- Increase Time Spent Reading
- Rethinking Schooling
## Average Time Spent Reading in 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Hours/minutes spent reading</th>
<th>Weekdays</th>
<th>Weekends and holidays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total, 15 years and over</td>
<td>:20</td>
<td></td>
<td>:26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 24 years</td>
<td>:07</td>
<td></td>
<td>:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
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<td>35 to 44 years</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>:30</td>
<td></td>
<td>:39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and over</td>
<td>:50</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: National Endowment for the Arts, *To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence*, November 2007.*
Time Spent Reading

• 18-24 year-olds don’t read for pleasure
• 2 of 3 college grads read voluntarily
• Today’s 17 year-olds read less well
• Reading is boring, but talking isn’t
What are we reading?

*Time Spent Reading in the Morning*

- [Newspaper]
- [Cereal Box]
Success of Proposal

• Economic: Return on Investment
• Hearing Loss and Deafness
• Increase Time Spent Reading
• Rethinking Schooling
Medieval university class (1350s)