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DECLARATION OF GILDARDA CISNEROS

I, GILDARDA CISNEROS, hereby declare:

1. I am the parent of Maria Imperatrice, who is a plaintiff in this action. If called to testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

2. My daughter Maria is a fourth grade student at Morris E. Dailey Elementary School.

3. I know Maria's school well because I volunteer in her classroom every other week, and my husband or I drop her off at school every day. I worry about my daughter's education because I have seen the stubby little pencils the kids have to use and that the school is missing basic supplies in the classroom.

4. I know my daughter's education is suffering because of the lack of school supplies. I have heard the teacher tell kids to be careful how they write on sheets of paper because they can only have that one sheet. The children and the teacher should not be worrying about those kinds of issues. They should be worrying about what the children are learning, not about whether they have another replacement piece of paper.

5. Maria doesn't have any books to bring home. She just has xeroxed sheets of paper to use for homework. Sometimes the copied papers she brings home don't even include instructions on them. So Maria might do the homework by calculating when she was supposed to have estimated instead. But if she had a whole book, she could look up her assignments and do them correctly.

6. What upsets me the most is that I see Maria's education suffering. It's frustrating for me to try to get Maria up to standard when I have no book to help her with and when I have to buy her supplies for school. I don't see the point of sending her to school when she comes home and is no better off than when she left in the morning.

7. Also, Maria's classroom is too crowded. If there were ever a fire in the room, it would be really scary for her. You have to worry about these things as a parent.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on April 10, 1999 at Fresno, California.



Gildarda Cisneros