May 23, 1991

Graduate Admissions Office Rockefeller College, Draper 112 University at Albany State University of New York 135 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12222

Dear Sirs:

I am very pleased to write a letter of recommendation for Ms. Kathryn Kurtz in support of her application to work towards a Masters' of social work degree. I have come to know Ms. Kurtz fairly well over the last semester. She has been in an advanced seminar course of mine on Selected Topics and Organizational Psychology. In that course, she has demonstrated the potential not only to succeed in graduate school, but to do extremely well both in her academic work and in her subsequent career.

Ms. Kurtz was an active participant in the seminar. With another classmate, she was responsible for preparing and presenting a full three hour seminar. During both the preparation and the presentation, she demonstrated a high level of ability. She is bright, articulate, and able to put together a very well organized presentation. She showed the same attributes in preparation of a final paper for the course.

As you will no doubt be aware from her other application materials, she developed and maintained her own business in the area of demographic research relating to families and women. In her final paper, she reviewed literature but also applied the understandings she developed from the literature to an analysis of her own personal situation. She showed some insight into her own past and present behavior, although I believe some of that remains to be further developed. She certainly has the capability and motivation to continue developing deeper insights into herself, as well as working with others in a helping relationship.

Ms. Kurtz has a number of additional personal qualities which will make her successful. Her contributions to class were frequent and insightful, but never dominating or inappropriate. She asked good questions and made good comments that moved along our discussions in a positive and helpful manner. She is prompt, reliable and well organized. She writes and speaks very well. In addition to all that, she is goal oriented and persistent.

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In short, Ms. Kurtz was one of the best students in my class, and showed herself to be someone likely both to benefit from graduate work in the human services area, and to be able to make contributions to the profession in the future. I strongly recommend her for your program.

Sincerely,

Walter vom Saal, Ph.D.

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Psychology

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