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To: "Dr. Baruch Fischhoff - Chair, National Academy study on Improving Intelligence"  
<baruch@cmu.edu>

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**Subject: 20. Increasing Compassion**

Dear Dr. Fischhoff and colleagues:

Re the new dimension of Political Opportunity analysis in DNI briefings & background reports prepared for President Obama: Since there now is \$75 billion/year to spend, it might be very worthwhile for your advisory committee to contact APA, formally and/or informally, to ask for 1-2 page memos from leading scientists about promising R&D to increase compassion.

**Increasing Compassion**

Increasing compassion would be one of our best investments for a safer and better world for everyone. And probably more cost-effective than arms races. It is accepted as a serious and legitimate strategic idea: There is a direct arc that leads from the Robbers Cave experiment to David Hamburg's Carnegie Commission on the Prevention of Deadly Conflict, to off-the-record meetings with leading news organizations, to the increased global coverage of shared humanitarian concerns and high-visibility responses to humanitarian emergencies.

There are honest and genuine new initiatives that can help to do this. The [www.smartglobalhealth.org](http://www.smartglobalhealth.org) Commission is looking for ideas, reportedly with a promise of \$10 billion in new funding from the Obama Administration, Gates and Kaiser Foundations, etc.

The saying among historians, re the effectiveness rate of Christianity & its theories (e.g., preaching at people) of how to create a better world, was: "Onward and upward, at 2% a century . . ." If you ask for advice from APA, good social science may make it possible to go faster.

The deeper challenge for DNI analysis & a learning component in DNI briefings/reports is to find ways to spend money that, beyond benefits to people who urgently need help, also supports

new and healthy elements in public awareness and global culture.

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