

money can buy strays so far from what our democracy is supposed to be. So that's number one on my list. Number two would be the part of the health care decision that concerns the commerce clause. Since 1937, the Court has allowed Congress a very free hand in enacting social and economic legislation.

I thought that the attempt of the Court to intrude on Congress's domain in that area had stopped by the end of the 1930s. Of course health care involves commerce. Perhaps number three would be Shelby County, involving essentially the destruction of the Voting Rights Act. That act had a voluminous legislative history. The bill extending the Voting Rights Act was passed overwhelmingly by both houses, Republicans and Democrats, everyone was on board. The Court's interference with that decision of the political branches seemed to me to be out of order. The Court should have respected the legislative judgment. Legislators know much more about elections than the Court does. And the same was true of Citizens United. I think members of the legislature, people who have to run for office, know the connection between money and influence on what laws get passed.

And one last note, almost a year later, Justice Ginsburg's opinion hadn't changed. Let me read from a New York Times report about the remarks she delivered at Duke Law School:

In expansive remarks on Wednesday evening, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg named the "most disappointing" Supreme Court decision in her 22-year tenure, discussed the future of the death penalty and abortion rights, talked about her love of opera and even betrayed a passing interest in rap music.

The Court's worst blunder, she said, was its 2010 decision in Citizens United "because of what has happened to elections in the United States and the huge amount of money it takes to run for office."

She was in dissent in the 5-4 decision.

The evening was sponsored by Duke University School of Law, and Justice Ginsburg answered questions from Neil S. Siegel, a professor there, and from students and alumni.

Echoing a dissent last month, she suggested that she was prepared to vote to strike down the death penalty, saying that the capital justice system is riddled with errors, plagued by bad lawyers, and subject to racial and geographic disparities.

She added that she despaired over the state of abortion rights.

"Reproductive freedom is in a sorry situation in the United States," she said.

"Poor women don't have choice."

That was our Ruth Ginsburg, concerned to the very end about how law affects all of the people it touches.

Ruthie, we will miss you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I come to the floor tonight to join my colleagues to honor the life of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Before I do, though, I would like to first of all thank my colleague from Massachusetts for reviewing the many legal decisions that Justice Ginsburg had been involved in and their significance.

I am so glad to be out here tonight as you took time in your perspective on the importance of those cases. We definitely need to remember that these de-

cisions, these words, set the stage for so many things to come before the American people and for working families. Thank you for that.

#### SAVANNA'S ACT

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, before I do, I wanted to say just a word about Savanna's Act, which, I can tell you, Justice Ginsburg would probably be happy that the House has now passed and, previously, the Senate had passed Savanna's Act, legislation that would help protect the rights and help move forward on changes to law enforcement that would better protect missing and murdered indigenous women.

This legislation—originally sponsored by my colleagues Heidi Heitkamp and LISA MURKOWSKI, and most recently cosponsored by Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator CORTEZ MASTO, and myself—I believe is on its way to the President's desk, and I am hoping that the President will sign this important legislation as soon as possible.

Indigenous women deserve to have the same rights and same protections under the law, but they need to have people who are tracking these heinous crimes that are happening because they are the victims of these crimes at a much higher rate than the general population.

You ask yourself: Well, how can that be? When you think about these women being abducted and murdered and missing, you have to have law enforcement who are going to follow these cases, track individuals, track the court process, and this is what better protocols, better statistics, and a better system is going to do with the passage of Savanna's Act. It will give us those tools that we need for indigenous women.

So I thank all of my colleagues for helping with the passage of that important legislation. It is on its way to the President's desk, and, again, I hope he will sign it as soon as possible.

#### REMEMBERING JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I join my colleagues tonight to come here and honor the life of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. As many people have said tonight already, what an unbelievable hero she was—a trailblazer, a deep thinker. And there are the things she did on the Court to do so many important things for the rights of Americans.

When I first met her in 2001, I had just come to Washington, DC, in my first year here in the U.S. Senate, and I just happened to go to a play at the Shakespeare Theatre, here near the Capitol, and had seats right next to her in the theater. I had probably already heard about her and knew of her, of course. That was of great significance even in 2001. But during the play, I noticed, just as I do in a dark situation, oftentimes falling asleep a little bit,

and I thought, wow, I don't know, this woman is so petite and so tiny. And I had heard that she had been sick. I literally sat there in the dark concerned for her future.

What a lesson about Ruth Bader Ginsburg, because that was 2001. And in 2020, she was going strong. This is not a woman to ever, ever, ever underestimate. She took her tools and applied them for the betterment of American women and American society overall. People across the United States of America are reeling from her passing because they want to know who is going to stand up for their rights now that she is gone.

There is something about that diminutive figure with so much might and wisdom that succeeded on that groove of a Court with all those men and had the courage and the tenacity to read her dissent in the Lilly Ledbetter legislation from the bench—the unusual move of saying: I might not have the decision I want today, but, by God, you are going to listen to what is wrong with gender inequality in America, and we are going to get on a path to fix it.

When I think about that unbelievable moment that in her quiet, soft voice set the stage that we heard our colleague Senator WARREN talk about tonight, it is pretty amazing. That is why we need to have women in these places. We need to have them so you have the voice of diversity there to tell you what it is like. And I guarantee you—when she said that statement, "I don't ask anything from my brother other than to get your foot off my neck," I guarantee you, she knew what that was like, and that is why she says it with such conviction.

That is what she represented. That is what she represented as an icon to so many people, and now they are mourning. I have had 2,000 calls in just a few days to our office about her passing.

One constituent, Lynn from Shelton, WA, said: I am old enough to have grown up experiencing the subtle and not so subtle discrimination aimed at girls and women that have limited our self-expression, our participation in sports, in politics, college accessibility and workplace, and even in my family life and reproduction. She continues: It has been slow progress for each of us to achieve increased equality. And so we have so much to thank Ruth Bader Ginsburg for. I am deeply saddened and frightened—frightened by her passing. As you know, our democracies, freedom, integrity and the rule of law are threatened and are even at greater risk.

Eileen, from Issaquah, wrote: Justice Ginsburg fought so valiantly for our rights as women. As women, we provide so much for the Washington economy.

I agree with her. Women provide a lot for our economy in the State of Washington.

She continues: I am a business owner myself, and I am terrified that gender protections are in grave danger. Ensuring civil liberties is not just the moral