

has faded from my memory. I can barely remember her face. But what I do remember is that, there in that clinic, I alone experienced pain and death. But, that was my choice.

Vena a young 24-year-old college student walked into a crisis pregnancy center in Rockville, Maryland in 1994.

I walked into the center in October. I'd taken a home pregnancy test and wanted to verify it. I was scared. I was still in college. I wasn't married. So I looked through the yellow pages. But I didn't want to go to an abortion clinic. I didn't want to make a drastic choice right away. And if I hadn't finally seen the ad for the Pregnancy Center, I may not have kept my baby—because I wouldn't have known who to turn to. I was so confused and scared. I couldn't tell my parents. I knew they wouldn't be supportive. And I didn't think I could handle the responsibility of a baby right then.

I needed someone to talk to, someone to help me get through this. And I needed support. When my boyfriend and I went into the center, that's when I met Sylvia. She confirmed that the pregnancy test was positive. I was about six weeks pregnant. At first Joe was excited about the baby. But the more we talked about it, the more I knew it was a bad time to have a baby. I was in my junior year at the University of Maryland. I knew I didn't want to have an abortion. I wanted to give the child life. But I needed someone's support. Joe was not supportive at the time. He was so confused. His parents had died when he was a teenager, so he couldn't go to them for advice.

My parents were divorced. And I had a difficult time figuring out how to tell them because they were very strict. Besides, they believed in getting married before you have kids. I ended up telling my mother I was pregnant a few weeks after visiting the center. She said, "It's your responsibility. You got pregnant; you have to deal with it." She also told me to get married. I was afraid to tell my father. We hadn't had a good relationship up to that point so I didn't tell him until the eighth month.

It was late December. I was having trouble with one of my roommates at school. Joe's attitude at that point was, "It's your baby, and you're the one who has to deal with it." I was depressed and crying. I didn't think I could do well in school. I was working a job. I didn't have any support—and I wanted to scream.

It was 11:45 at night. I called Sylvia and woke her up. I didn't think I could deal with anything anymore. I asked her, "What should I do about the pregnancy?"

Sylvia was great. I don't think she realizes how important she was to me. "You're going to be okay. Just take one day at a time. Don't worry about anything right now," she said. "You don't want to jeopardize your health. You need to calm down and think rationally." Sylvia encouraged me, "Talk to me as long as you want to." I talked for about an hour. She got me through the night. Sylvia isn't the only counselor I talked to. I called a couple of times and spoke to some others. Especially when I needed things I didn't have money for—like maternity clothes. The counselors gave them to me. It was wonderful to be able to use the resources of the center.

Then in January, I called Sylvia again for emergency counseling. I had just moved from one dorm to another. Here I was moving in January and I was about five months pregnant. At least my old roommates knew the situation and I was close to them. I had no transportation. Money was tight. Everything I had was going towards transportation and food. I was providing for myself. It was difficult. No one was giving me money. I needed to talk to someone, so I called Sylvia.

"I don't have any money, and I don't know what to do." I told her. "I need to go to a doctor, but I don't have any money to get there. I want to take care of this baby. I can't make it to my doctor appointments. And no one can give me a ride there. I really need to talk to you."

She said okay. She met me after work. She reassured me that even though it was difficult, I had to understand that I might be the only one who could take care of this baby. She reminded me that I couldn't always depend on someone else to do it.

"You can't blame someone else or feel sorry for yourself because other people aren't helping you. You can't dwell on that," Sylvia said. "You have to think positively. Think about what you can do." She was always concerned about how I was doing financially.

Sylvia was very good about talking to Joe too. She helped him understand that he was going through a difficult situation as well. And she really let him know that she was there for him. There were a couple of sessions where she helped Joe and me communicate. Before that, we fought all the time. Sylvia helped us cope with our feelings.

In late January, we went to visit Joe's relatives. When he took me to visit them, he was very confident. I felt secure because he was very sure of what he wanted to do. He wanted this baby. He told them I was pregnant a few weeks afterwards. "We're happy for you," said his aunt and uncle. "This baby will be really special." They also hoped we would get married if we really loved each other. It was important to Joe that we have family support. Soon after that we started to talk about getting married. But we were both nervous and kept putting it off.

In April, Joe and Sylvia convinced me to tell my dad. I had wanted to wait until I had a plan to tell him. But his response surprised me. He encouraged us to get married. Then he invited us to move in with him. So we did. He helped us with groceries. And after I had the baby—when I couldn't walk—he was a great help.

Joe and I married on May 18, two days before the baby's due date. Six days later, I delivered a beautiful baby boy—Benjamin Cleveland. Everyone was at the hospital—Sylvia, Joe, my Mom and my Dad. I told Sylvia she was welcome to watch the delivery because I couldn't have done it without her. She was really my constant, main support during my pregnancy.

Clearly both situations were hard. But, in Vena's case, the strengths of the modern-day crisis pregnancy movement are in full evidence. So, the next time you hear someone say these centers are deceptive or that they don't care—remember Sylvia and the thousands of other counselors who are out there helping the Venas of this world make it through another night.

SUPPORT OF THE DAVIS-MORAN AMENDMENT

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 3, 1995

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, last week I supported the Davis-Moran amendment to the VA/HUD appropriations bill. In my district in North Carolina the EPA has increased its permanent bureaucracy by hiring employees away from the private sector. This amounts to a confiscation of the primary asset—their human capital—of these small private, for-profit, taxpaying companies.

EPA's contractor conversion program in the Office of Research and Development was created not because of the private contractor's performance but because of EPA's own poor contract management. Rather than fixing their problem, EPA saw an opportunity to divert our attention, expand its bureaucracy, and raid the resources of its private sector competitors.

EPA promised the Congress that savings would accrue to the Government if the contractor conversion program was approved. In fact, they projected over \$6 million in savings in fiscal year 1996 for ORD alone. But like many bureaucrats' promises it was all smoke and mirrors. Instead of a surplus, they've come running back to Congress asking for more money.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time to end this unfair practice. I believe that private contractors constitute a flexible and efficient mechanism for the delivery of necessary research services. Private companies should not have to worry that their human capital will be raided by a bloated, out-of-control government bureaucracy.

FAREWELL TO THERESA VOILS

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 3, 1995

Mr. Montgomery. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a minute to thank one of the public servants who takes care of us, the public servants—the people who stand at the door of this great Chamber and bring messages, tell us that constituents are waiting and generally are of great service to the running of our governmental system. I am talking about the doorkeepers—the Chamber security as they are now known.

As of Friday, we are losing a smiling face and a helpful assistant. Theresa Voils who has served us for 5 years, is going back to her home State of Indiana. She is going to finish her degree in political science at Indiana University and no doubt—after standing at the door of this House Chamber she will have some great stories to tell.

Mr. Speaker, I want to salute Ms. Voils for her service and thank her for the invaluable assistance she has provided to me and the hundreds of other Representatives in this body. She hopes to return to this Chamber someday. I, for one, will welcome her back and wish her well in Indiana.

VILLAGE OF TANNERSVILLE CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 3, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I have always been proud of the heritage and physical beauty of the 22d Congressional District of New York, which I have the privilege of representing. It is for the history and the picturesque sites and towns that I return home every weekend.

We often forget, Mr. Speaker, that the real America is not Washington, but the small

towns and villages where real people live and work. I would like to talk about one such village today.

The village of Tannersville, NY, is nestled in the majestic peaks of the Catskill Mountains in Greene County. Early on, the tanning industry was thriving and was the focal point of the region, behest the name Tannersville. However, the arrival of the Ulster and Delaware Railroad in 1882 brought a tourist boom to the village which still exists today. This boom prompted the building of new roadside stores, sidewalks, and expanded streets leading to vacation hideaways in the countryside. This industry contributed to the rapid expansion of Tannersville's public services not to mention the village's cultural heritage. The influx of part-time neighbors such as Mark Twain and Maude Adams made musicals, stage performances, and dancing all a part of life in Tannersville.

Mr. Speaker, massive fires coupled with the devastation of the Great Depression in the 1930's couldn't keep this village down. Following World War II the tourist industry again resurfaced and with the arrival of nearby Hunter Mountain ski slope and other winter recreation spots, there was a new focus on tourism. Now, the various village shops, inns, and restaurants offer both hometown hospitality and down home charm to the thousands of tourists who flock to this picturesque mountaintop community throughout all seasons.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in representing the people like those who make their home in Tannersville. They truly reflect those traditional American qualities of pride and community which made our Nation great. Just ask anyone who visits the area from near or far and they'll tell you the citizens of Tannersville exemplify the terms courtesy and hospitality while offering a sincere sense of camaraderie. These characteristics are most definitely a product of their history and way of life making Tannersville an ideal place to work and raise a family or vacation year round.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members rise with me today and salute the village of Tannersville on their 100th anniversary and wish the people there many more years of prosperity and comfort.

COMMEMORATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOMAS RIVER CENTER

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 3, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Tomas River Center [TRC] on its 10th anniversary.

TRC was established in 1985 by a group of visionary college presidents and chief executive officers of major corporations. Named after former University of Riverside chancellor, Tomas Rivera, an accomplished scholar and community activist, the center is a national institute for policy studies. It conducts relevant and timely research and policy analysis on issues important to the U.S. Latino community.

As the Nation's premier Latino organization for policy analysis and research, TRC strives to foster sound public policies and programs concerning the Latino community, particularly

in the areas of education, immigration, and civic empowerment.

TRC's rigorous research and critical analysis has consistently led to a better understanding of the needs of the Latino population. TRC conducted an extensive analysis of 1990 census data to provide information available on ethnicity, employment, and income for use in the affirmative action debate. TRC is currently researching the availability of computers in the classrooms and homes of Latino students to determine whether they are receiving the education needed to participate in 21st century society.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to recognize the Tomas Rivera Center on the occasion of its 10th anniversary and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending best wishes and continued success to TRC.

THE BUDGET CRISIS

HON. ERNEST J. ISTOOK, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 3, 1995

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, my fellow Oklahoman, Paul Harvey, recently gave this commentary on the budget debt and the cronic budget deficit. This reemphasizes the importance of our work on balancing the budget within the next 7 years and reversing the trend of Federal budgets of the past. It is important for Congress to continue working to restore fiscal integrity to the Federal Government.

[Paul Harvey commentary follows:]

TOO MANY ALARMS

There are too many alarms going off: Americans are refusing to heed any of them.

Seismologists predict quakes which may or may not happen and about which we can't do anything anyway.

Even the sky is falling, as ten thousand hunks of space junk wait their turn for re-entry.

Daily headlines threaten us with invasions of killer ants, killer bees and killer diseases for which we have no cure.

And so it is that it is that a time bomb more certain than any of these is mostly ignored.

We are about to be buried alive under a national debt of 4.8 trillion dollars and it's growing 10 thousand dollars a second!

But are not both the President and the Congress promising to defuse the bomb? They are.

President Clinton says he can balance the budget in ten years; Congress talks of doing it in seven.

But nobody is doing it!

And history justifies anxiety.

The President who promises to balance the budget in ten years told Larry King in June of 1992 that he'd accomplish that objective in five years.

However, instead of presenting a balanced budget in 1993—the year he took office—he increased our debt by \$253 billion.

Then, instead of presenting a balanced budget in 1994, he increased our debt another \$203 billion.

Then, instead of presenting a balanced budget for 1995, he proposed a budget that would increase our debt another \$320 billion.

Then, instead of promoting Congress' plan to balance the budget in seven years, he's threatening to veto it claiming that that's going too fast!

Now, a full three years after Mr. Clinton promised to present a five-year plan to bal-

ance the budget, he is promising—oh, so promising—to balance the budget in ten.

If the situation were less dire . . . if the time bomb were not so big and so unstable perhaps we could wait and see and hope and pray that this time—this time—something will be done.

We must not wait.

Even Newt Gingrich says it may take ten years. We may not have ten years.

Every child born today will pay a lifetime tax rate of over 82%.

Every child born tomorrow will pay \$187,000 in taxes for the interest on what we owe.

That's just the interest . . . \$187,000 in interest on our debt.

Every American man, woman and child will owe \$24,000 by the year 2000, and that, by the way, is just one presidential election away.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the cuts proposed in the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill, and particularly for title I compensatory education.

This House is proposing to cut the lifeline of education for disadvantaged children in this country—known as title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Remember all the horror stories you've heard about little Johnny who can't read? Remember the report about the huge number of 17-year-olds in this country who had been given high school degrees but who couldn't read or write? Title I is the remedial program that is putting a stop to illiteracy among young children that carries over to adulthood.

Title I services are paid for with Federal dollars which local folks can't afford to pay for themselves—or at least, not without raising taxes.

Mr. Chairman, I represent 16 counties in West Virginia. My 16-county, title I children stand to lose more than \$5 million in fiscal year 1996 title I funds.

I am here to tell you, Mr. Chairman, there is no way that my 16 counties can afford to raise taxes to replace \$5 million in lost title I dollars next year.

Is there anyone here on this floor whose district can afford to raise taxes in order to replace Federal title I dollars?

Mr. Chairman, education cuts don't heal. They bleed and stay sore, but they never heal.

Children who are already wary from bumping up against the wall of poverty, without title I remedial education, will never heal from these cuts.