

conservatives do not treat blacks and whites as moral equals. Critics of affirmative action often invoke Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who in 1963 said famously, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." It is a corollary of this principle that, when gazing upon Americans who are welfare mothers, juvenile felons or the cognitively deficient, we should see human beings with problems, not races of people plagued by pathology. Yet, as I have argued, conservatives do not always do so.

Perhaps more significantly, this selective remembrance of Dr. King's moral leadership diminishes the challenge which his life, and death, should pose for all Americans. Two years before his most famous speech, in a commencement address at Lincoln University, Dr. King made a less well known reference to his dream for our nation:

"One of the first things we notice in this dream is an amazing universalism. It does not say some men [are created equal], but it says all men. It does not say all white men, but it says all men, which includes black men. . . . And there is another thing we see in this dream that ultimately distinguishes democracy and our form of government from all of the totalitarian regimes that emerge in history. It says that each individual has certain basic rights that are neither conferred by nor derived from the state. To discover where they come from, it is necessary to move back behind the dim mist of eternity, for they are God-given. Very seldom, if ever, in the history of the world has a sociopolitical document expressed in such profoundly eloquent and unequivocal language the dignity and the worth of the human personality. The American dream reminds us that every man is heir to the legacy of worthiness."

This too would be a worthy dream for conservatism: to insure that every American can lay claim to his most precious civic inheritance—a legacy of worthiness. To secure it, conservatives must learn not to look upon poor urban blacks as the Others—aliens apart from and a threat to our civilization. Instead, these Americans should be seen as inseparably interwoven constituents of the larger social fabric.

#### MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CLINTON: END IMPASSE, BALANCE THE BUDGET

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday December 20, 1995*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues this editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on December 20, 1995:

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Dec. 20, 1995]

#### MESSAGE TO CLINTON GROWS LOUDER: END IMPASSE, BALANCE THE BUDGET

Wall Street may have accomplished something that the public—which, in opinion surveys, tilted toward President Clinton's position on a balanced budget—had failed to do. Traders and investors sent a strong message to Washington about the urgency of ending the impasse over a balanced budget.

The message came in the form of a decline in the value of stocks and bonds as the street expressed its concern over the collapse of budget negotiations between the White House and GOP congressional leaders. By the

end of the day Monday, the White House was setting a new round of talks in motion.

For such indications of urgency have come from the general public. Clinton's approval rating has risen to a two-year high since he began characterizing the GOP budget as an act of cruelty against the poor, the sick and the elderly. Republicans, in effect, have been punished in the polls for trying to keep their 1994 campaign promise to balance the budget.

Not all Democrats, however, were buying the White House line. On the same day that Wall Street roared its disapproval of the impasse, a bipartisan group presented a position paper at a symposium in Minneapolis. The group included former office-holders Paul Tsongas, Richard Lamm, Gary Hart, Tim Penny, Lowell Weicker and John Anderson. All but Weicker and Anderson are Democrats.

Their statement included this "core principle": "We can no longer stay the course, spending more than we earn." They said, "We are maintaining our standard of living by borrowing from our children." They urged that the nation's leaders commit to a policy of economic stability, which means no inflation and no federal budget deficits "to soak up an already inadequate national savings pool."

Sacrifice will be necessary, they said. Among other things, Social Security and Medicare must be reformed to prepare them for the retirement of large numbers of baby boomers after the turn of the century. Clinton has described even the modest adjustments the Republicans have proposed as draconian. He simply must compromise on Medicare and Medicaid, bring himself to take the decisive actions that moderates in his own party are increasingly coming to consider necessary.

Another message was leveled at Washington Tuesday morning. In a "bipartisan appeal from business leaders," published as a newspaper advertisement and carrying the names of more than 90 business executives, Clinton and Congress were urged to remember that the health of the economy rests on the ability of the government to agree on a credible plan.

Among other things, the business leaders said, it's time to accept the economic projections from the Congressional Budget Office—projections that Clinton has opposed because they would allow less spending than the more optimistic White House figures. The bipartisan business leaders also said long-term entitlement spending should be "on the table" for reconsideration, as should any proposed tax cuts.

Little by little, Clinton's attempts to exploit the situation for political gain are being called to account by members of his own party. Something has been needed to neutralize his tacky insistence that the struggle has been between an enlightened, compassionate White House and an evil gang of GOP extremists. Some Democrats have helped set the record straight by adding their voices to bipartisan messages.

#### REVISED BUDGET RESOLUTION REFLECTING THE PRESIDENT'S MOST RECENT PROPOSAL

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 19, 1995*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, the most important debate in decades is taking place right

now. It is a debate about whether this Nation should balance the Federal budget in 7 years.

In October, my Republican colleagues and I did what needed to be done for decades. We made difficult decisions and Congress passed a historic balanced budget—a budget that finally reforms the Nation's welfare system, provides pro-family and pro-jobs tax relief, and saves Medicare from bankruptcy. The President has chosen the veto pen over the balancing pen. Apparently, he and his Democrat colleagues are not interested in a budget agreement if it means actually cutting spending and saving billions of dollars for our children.

This week, parts of the Government are shut down because the President chose to veto three appropriations bills. With the stroke of a pen, he could open the Government. But he would rather posture and make speeches than roll up his sleeves and sit down in good faith to negotiate a balanced budget that we can all agree on.

What the President and Congress do now about balancing the budget, will define the scope and the nature of our Government well into the 21st century. Mr. Speaker, this is a rare chance to step off the deficit treadmill. My Republican colleagues and I have delivered to the American people a budget plan with honest numbers that balance in just 7 years. The President must step up to the plate, live up to his word and do the same.

#### LEGISLATION DEPLORING HOLOCAUST DENIERS AND COMMENDING THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM HOUSE RESOLUTION 316

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 1995*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a resolution, House Resolution 316, on behalf of myself and my House colleagues on the Holocaust Memorial Museum Council, Mr. YATES, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. REGULA, and Mr. LANTOS, which deplores the persistent, ongoing, and malicious efforts by some persons in this country and abroad to deny the historical reality of the Holocaust, and which commends the vital, ongoing work of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Yesterday, the House adopted legislation that will facilitate the museum's annual Days of Remembrance ceremony in the Rotunda on April 16, 1995. Yet, the work of the Holocaust Memorial Museum is conducted year-round, as evidenced by the larger than expected attendance at the museum, which is steadily increasing.

One of the reasons for the museum's existence is to counter Holocaust deniers. Those who promote the denial of the Holocaust do so either out of profound ignorance or for furthering anti-Semitism and racism. The Holocaust Memorial Museum, through its permanent exhibitions, traveling programs, and educational outreach efforts, both memorialize the victims of the Holocaust, and counters these accusers through its honest and sensitive approach to one of the most ferociously heinous state acts the world has ever known.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I request that the full text of the legislation be printed at this

point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for my colleagues' review, and urge all Members of the House of Representatives to express their support for the work of the Holocaust Memorial Museum by cosponsoring this legislation, House Resolution 316.

H. RES. 316

Deploring individuals who deny the historical reality of the Holocaust and commending the vital, ongoing work of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Whereas the Holocaust is a basic fact of history, the denial of which is no less absurd than the denial of the occurrence of the Second World War;

Whereas the Holocaust—the systematic, state-sponsored mass murders by Nazi Germany of 6,000,000 Jews, alongside millions of others, in the name of a perverse racial theory—stands as one of the most ferociously heinous state acts the world has ever known; and

Whereas those who promote the denial of the Holocaust do so out of profound ignorance or for the purpose of furthering anti-Semitism and racism: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) deplores the persistent, ongoing and malicious efforts by some persons in this country and abroad to deny the historical reality of the Holocaust; and

(2) commends the vital, ongoing work of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, which memorializes the victims of the Holocaust and teaches all who are willing to learn profoundly compelling and universally resonant moral lessons.

#### H.R. 1804, THE JUDGE ISAAC PARKER FEDERAL BUILDING

HON. Y. TIM HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 1995*

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, recently the House passed H.R. 1804, which would name the Federal building in Fort Smith, AR, after Judge Isaac Parker.

While this legislation was overwhelmingly supported by 373 Members of the House, there were 40 Members who voted against H.R. 1804. It was subsequently reported that a number of Members who voted against the bill did so because they believed Judge Parker was a racist and one was even quoted as saying Parker "Hung blacks because they were black."

This past year our country faced the issue of race in ways it never had before. It is a sad and unfortunate fact that racism is alive and well in our society today. It is also a fact that racism knows no color or ethnic boundaries. People of all races are subject to their own prejudices. We must all fight to overcome our own personal prejudices and biases.

That is why I cannot allow the statements about Judge Parker to go unanswered. I think it is important for people to know the real Judge Parker and the man that he was. He was a man who was ahead of his time. He was a man who freely gave of himself to his community. He was a man who had a deep respect for the law and a deep concern for those who came before his court. His reputation is so respected that 100 years after his death the citizens of Fort Smith, AR still want to honor him and his legacy.

I would, therefore, bring to your attention letters which were sent to me from the Department of the Interior the day after the vote on H.R. 1804. One is from the superintendent of the Fort Smith National Historic Site and the other is a letter to the editor by the park historian. I hope this information is helpful to Members' understanding of the real Judge Parker.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,

*Fort Smith, AR, December 6, 1995.*

Hon. TIM HUTCHINSON,

*U.S. House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HUTCHINSON: We have been following your efforts over the last few months to rename the Fort Smith federal building in honor of Judge Isaac C. Parker with great interest and support. I read the news article in this morning's paper and was surprised and disappointed to read the statements calling Judge Parker a racist and the unsubstantiated remarks that he hanged blacks "just because they were black". There is no historical record supporting these statements. In fact the record proves just the opposite. Our historian has written the attached letter to the editor to hopefully clarify the issue. She also received a call today from the AP service in Little Rock about this and she provided the same information to them. We are forwarding similar letters to Senators Bumpers and Pryor in the hopes that they will also support your efforts.

I am sorry that we did not offer you more substantial support earlier in the process. I was frankly surprised that there would be much protest. If we can provide you any further details or information please call on us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM N. BLACK,  
*Superintendent.*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,

*Fort Smith, AR, December 6, 1995.*

EDITOR,

*Southwest Times Record,*  
*Fort Smith, AR.*

TO THE EDITOR: In response to criticism of Isaac C. Parker leveled by lawmakers opposing the House bill to name the federal courthouse in Fort Smith after the judge, I would like to make the following comments. The statement that Parker hanged African Americans "just because they were black" is simply not true. Of the 87 men who were executed on the Fort Smith gallows (79 of those while Parker was on the bench), 33 (38%) were white, 36 (41%) were Indian and 18 (21%) were black. Of those 18 African Americans, 17 were convicted of murder and one of rape in jury trials. Federal statute at that time ordered that anyone convicted of rape or murder was to receive the death penalty. Parker had no choice except to sentence these people to death.

Furthermore, Parker provided opportunities for African Americans that otherwise would not have been available. He appointed Bass Reeves the first African American deputy U.S. marshal west of the Mississippi in 1875. Other blacks served prominently on the deputy force throughout Parker's years in Fort Smith, including Grant Johnson, Zeke Miller, Robert Fortune, John Garrett and Bynum Colbert. Parker's personal bailiff while he was in Fort Smith was a former slave named George Winston. Other African Americans served on the staff of the federal jail at Fort Smith.

Nothing in the historical record supports the idea that Parker was a racist. The Ohio native, Union Civil War veteran and Congressman from Missouri used his position as

a federal judge to empower African Americans. Yes, there were black men hanged on the gallows, but these were convicted criminals guilty of severe crimes. By the time they reach Parker's courtroom, there was little he could do but provide them a fair trial and then, if necessary, sentence them as the law provided.

Sincerely,

JULIET L. GALONKA,  
*Park Historian.*

#### AWARD-WINNING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 20, 1995*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important issues for the future of our Nation is the application of responsible environmental policy. Our natural resources are most precious, and cannot be replaced. Our policy decisions must be based upon careful deliberations sounded in credible, objective, and thorough information. I am proud to say that the Bay City Times has been tremendously successful in meeting this test with its award-winning series, "Cleaning our Troubled Waters".

Over an 8-day period last year, the Bay City Times carefully examined the facts surrounding the condition of the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River. The State of Michigan had dedicated this waterway as the most contaminated body of water in the State. The people who live around the Saginaw Bay and River, and who depend upon it as a source of water, recreation, and commerce, deserved and needed accurate information, and they got it.

Nearly half of the editorial staff of the Times worked on this series over a 10-month period, carefully checking and rechecking information to provide as accurate a view of the situation as possible. Their hard work resulted in four major awards: the 1994 Associated Press Division 2 News Sweepstakes Award; 1st place in the 1994 AP Division 2 Public Service for News; Michigan United Conservation Club's Ben East Award; and 2d place for Local News Reporting from the Michigan Press Association.

Following an exhaustive review of environmental records, numerous site visits, extensive interviews, this series has enlightened many of us who truly care about how we preserve the Saginaw Water Basin, how we keep funding alive for the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative, and what each of us can do to be more aware of the impact that we have on our environment.

I want to offer my heartiest congratulations to the dedicated staff who worked on this series: Reporters Eric English, Kelly Adrian Frick, Tom Gilchrist, Greta Guest, Lydia Hodges, John Herbst, Jenni Laidman, and Amy Reyes; photographers Wes Stafford and Dick Van Nostrand; graphic artist Tammie Stimpfel; and editors Elizabeth Gunther, Pam Panchak and David Vizard. These people contributed to the work of a lifetime, and their efforts should have a major impact on public policy designed to safeguard the Saginaw Bay and River. I also want to compliment Bay City Times publisher Kevin Dykema and editor Paul Keep for having the foresight to devote this level of skilled resources to a project that