

the world who are acquiring the technology to deliver weapons of mass destruction by ballistic missiles, perhaps a little shorter range than the Russian missiles, but still with the capacity to rain harm on their neighbors, on neighboring states, on the capitals of our allies, capital cities, on troops deployed abroad.

The administration said, "We are for that, too. But we do not really want to spend as much money as it would take to develop the systems, at least as soon as you would like to see them developed." So it has been distressing to those of us who tried to support these programs to see the administration delay them and delay them and delay them, while all the time suggesting that nevertheless they do support them. Specifically, I have in mind two very important theater ballistic missile programs, the so-called THAAD Program and the Navy Upper Tier Program.

Both of these are designed to, when they are deployed, intercept missiles that would be delivered by an enemy in some theater around the world. One reason for the Navy program is that you could send the Aegis cruisers all over the world, literally, and defend against such a situation. For example, if the North Koreans decided to launch one of their new missiles against Japan or against South Korea, or even, as they will have the capability of doing after the turn of the century, against the United States—say Alaska or Hawaii—positioning those Aegis cruisers somewhere in the western Pacific would permit us to intercept such a missile.

The administration, however, has refused to comply with the law of the land in spending the money necessary to develop those programs within the timeframe called for by the legislation that was adopted by the Congress and signed by the President last year. Therefore, it is another example of an idea where the President has said, "I am for that, too," but he is not willing to back up the words with actions.

Quickly, Mr. President, two other examples I wanted to mention. One is one where I really hope we can have a bipartisan effort, because this should know no partisanship. It deals with the question of victims' rights. People who have been victimized by violent crime ought to have some constitutional rights in our criminal justice system. I say criminal justice system because that is what it has come to be called. But in a perverse way, it also expresses what has really happened to our system, where justice is provided to criminals—and we would have it no other way—but it is not provided to the victims of crime. We need to right that imbalance right now.

Our society believes in the rights of innocent people so strongly that we even say we would rather have nine guilty people go free than have one innocent person convicted of a crime. So we protect the rights of defendants,

people who are accused of crimes. But we do not provide similar protections to those people who are innocent and have already been victimized. Senator FEINSTEIN, a Democrat, and myself have introduced a constitutional amendment to protect victims of crime. We hope this will be a bipartisan effort.

Recently, we find that sounds coming from the White House suggest, again, the President is for this. I am hoping this time he will not only be for it in his expressions, but that he will support us in our effort to get this constitutional amendment adopted. The former majority leader, Bob Dole, is a cosponsor of our legislation. I would be very, very pleased if President Bill Clinton would join with us in supporting this constitutional amendment so Republicans and Democrats alike could provide real protection for the victims of crime. This should be a real test for the President. Will he not just say, "Me, too," but come aboard and achieve the goal.

Finally, I just wanted to mention the fifth item, and that is the balanced budget. The President has been very, very willing to say he, too, is for a balanced budget. The problem is that every effort that we have undertaken to try to achieve that balanced budget he has thwarted.

We tried to do it first through a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, because we knew it would be difficult to get the Congress to actually pass a balanced budget. He lobbied several Senators on the Democratic side who had previously supported the balanced budget amendment, urged them to oppose it, and it failed by one vote, as we all know. So we did not get a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, even though the President said he was for a balanced budget.

He said that ought to be the job of the House and Senate, so we took him up on his word. On November 17 of last year, the Senate of the United States passed a balanced budget, the first one in 20-some years, I think it is 28 years. The House did the same thing. We sent that balanced budget to the President. On December 6 last year, he vetoed it.

He is for a balanced budget, but when it came time to actually sign it, he was not ready to do that. So, once again, we have an example—this is the fifth one, as I said—where the President is very quick to say, "Me, too," but when it comes time to follow through, he is not there.

I will return to the beginning of my remarks. As Jack Kemp said, campaigns are about providing leadership and new ideas. The Republicans have provided this leadership. We have provided the new ideas. We have really won this campaign of ideas because it seems to me that the President and many of our Democratic friends are now agreeing with us that welfare reform, Medicaid reform, tax relief for American families, a strong national defense, a balanced budget, regulatory

reform—which I have not even talked about—all of these things are good ideas and they should be implemented.

The President says, "I agree." The problem is that we cannot get him to follow through with this. That is what this next election probably is going to be all about. Will we follow our leadership? Do you agree with our ideas? If you do, Mr. President, what we will be saying is elect the kind of people who will follow through on those ideas. If you do not agree with those ideas, of course, then you are going to want to support someone else. But I think politics is about providing leadership and new ideas. These are the right ideas, and it is time for us to get support, not just in the House and in the Senate of the United States, but from the President of the United States.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BUDGET RESOLUTION CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I cannot support the budget resolution which the majority has presented to us. First, it reduces funding for Medicare and Medicaid more than is necessary in order to provide dollars for tax cuts which are likely to benefit most of the wealthiest among us.

The budget also reduces discretionary funding for education from current levels—and I emphasize that—the funding for education is being reduced in this budget from current levels for 5 of the next 6 years. It does that at the same time that it increases the funding for defense each and every year during that period, including \$11 billion more for next year than the Pentagon requested.

Those are not the right priorities. Last year we fought long and hard before succeeding in restoring funding for education, such as Head Start, vocational education, the title I reading, writing and math skills program, Perkins loans and the State student incentive grants for college students. I believe it would be shortsighted to now retreat from a firm commitment to the best investment in our future, and that is education.

We have now reduced the deficit for three straight years, and we are on the verge of a fourth. We are doing that—reducing the deficit for three straight years—for the first time since World War II. During those same years, the deficit has been cut by more than half, from \$290 billion in 1992 to less than \$145 billion in 1996.

We should build on that progress, and we should continue that progress. That

is why I supported two alternative budget resolutions, each of which would have balanced the Federal budget within 7 years.

Those budgets would do so, however, without providing large tax cuts to the wealthiest among us at the expense of children, seniors and students. We can balance the budget without damaging cuts to health care for the elderly, education funding and environmental protection, and those are among the top priorities of American working families.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings under the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN and Mrs. MURRAY pertaining to the submission of Senate Resolution 263 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE POWER OF RELEVANT EDUCATION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, yesterday, I was privileged to see and hear a dramatic presentation by four high school sophomores from my home State of Washington. They performed a short dramatic work, with choral music, in my office for me and my staff. They had no fancy stage lights or microphones or curtains. They had simple costumes, and no stage make-up. Yet, they created true magic. It was emotional, powerful, and indicative of what young people can do if given half a chance.

These four young women, Dallas Milholland, Cynthia Ward, Kristin Allen-Zito, and Malissa Kobbevik, came to Washington, DC, from their home 3,000 miles away in Bellingham, WA, to compete in the National History Day Finals. The presentation they created was entitled "Focus of Concern: Breaking the Silence Surrounding Battered Women."

They researched the plight of battered women throughout history. They examined the accounts of women's ill-treatment, and the silence, ignorance, and approval of such treatment. They also looked at the rise of concern about

domestic violence and passage and enforcement of laws to protect women against it.

These four young women wrote the script, adapted the accompanying music for beautiful three-part harmony, chose the subdued black costumes, and did the understated blocking and choreography. They performed before national judges, and other students from around the country.

This morning, they called and told me that they have been chosen as the National Champions of the National History Day Competition. I know the Presiding Officer is as proud of these four young women from Washington State as I am.

The teachers and students of Bellingham High School, and those on Vashon Island, in Port Angeles, and Richland, who also brought their terrific History Day projects to the competition, should all be proud. The people of Bellingham, of Washington State, and all Americans should be very proud of these four young women from Bellingham, and all those who made their great victory possible.

What their performance teaches every person who sees it is that domestic violence is an overpowering presence in the lives of too many women and children, almost as hard to outlive as his to live through. As these young women point out in their presentation, "During the 10 minutes of (our) presentation, 66 women have been beaten. Sometime during the next 3 hours, one of these women will die."

To quote further: "During the 13 years of the Vietnam war, 58,000 American service personnel died on the battlefield. During the same time period, 54,000 American women were killed by their domestic partners."

Their performance teaches that with brutality against women, as with all brutality in the human experience, there are times of concern, when actions happen, and there are times of silence, or worse, times when brutality is condoned. Each of us needs to be responsible to call 911 when we hear the sounds of domestic violence in our neighborhoods. Each of us needs to be responsible to value women and their young children. Each of us needs to tell young girls that they deserve and should expect better.

We must become aware that every day women are beaten, pushed, and threatened by those they love: and they are too afraid to admit "someone I love is hurting me."

This performance also teaches something about the power of a relevant education. Young people learn best when they see relevance to their own lives outside the classroom, relevance to their current interests, and relevance to their future careers.

These young women are talented, interested, and powerful. They are not, however, alone, and they are not unique. Behind these four young women are four families, and at least one great teacher who gave them a

chance. A chance to do something adults these days don't seem to expect from American students—strive for excellence.

Every student can benefit from seeing this performance. Every student can also benefit from being given a chance to work hard for something that they truly care about. Whether it's a book, a social cause, a business idea, a sport or hobby—we must encourage young people to see the connections.

These young people from my State are incredible. They can help us solve the problems facing this country, so can all the other children in this country today.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the text of the script from the students at Bellingham High School be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

"BATTERED WOMEN"—SCRIPT

4 girls standing in darkness with backs to audience.

C/D/K: Open with song: "Can You Hear the Prayer of the Women."

[single spotlight on.]

M: My heart is in anguish within me. The terrors of death have fallen on me. Fear and trembling come upon me and horror overwhelms me. It is not enemies who taunt me. I could bear that: It is not adversaries who deal insolently with me. I could hide from them, but it is you, my equal. My companion, my familiar friend with whom I kept pleasant company—Psalm 55.

[spot off.]

C/D/K: Song: "Crying Jesus Help me to see the morning light of one more day. But if I should die before I wake, I pray my soul to take."

M: I was charged with first degree murder. I have 15 to life: I killed my husband.

K: I was charged with murder in the first. I have life without: I killed my husband.

D: I was charged with second degree murder. I'm serving 15 to life: I killed my husband.

C: I was charged with first degree murder. I'm doing life without. I killed my husband.

[4 spots on.]

All: I killed my abuser.

C: During the 13 years of the Vietnam war 58,000 American service personnel died on the battlefield.

D: During the same time period 54,000 American women were killed by their domestic partners.

All: Beaten to death.

K: Stomped.

C: Kicked.

M: Choked.

D: Their head bashed repeatedly against solid stationary objects.

All: Battered.

C: Every fourth woman who enters a hospital is there because of injuries sustained during an attack by her domestic partner.

D: Every 9 seconds in America a woman is beaten by her husband: The flash of the red light is indicative of this time of violence.

M: Seven women die each day as a result of these beatings.

K: For 1,000's of years society has not only allowed, but has tacitly encouraged the battering of women.

D: The Old Testament.

C: "The Levite picks up his battered wife and cutting her into 12 pieces he sends her remains throughout the land." Judges 19:30