

new standard of character, a never-never land of legalistic gymnastics that carefully avoids the outright lie, but plumbs the depths of deception, deceit, and verbal prestidigitation.

The campaign to deceive began with Medicare, blossomed in Filegate, and continues this very day with the corruption of American elections by foreign money. This new White House standard is a national disgrace.

SANCHEZ-DORNAN ELECTION

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the truth will be told. Madam Speaker, Bob Dornan is fighting for a job, and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] is fighting for her life and the life of a people who deserve a right to be represented in the U.S. Congress. What a travesty.

First, the Republicans want to counter the real counting of people by opposing sampling so that urban dwelling Hispanics, African-Americans, Asians, new immigrants to this Nation, who become new citizens cannot be counted. Why? Sheer politics.

Why do the Republicans want to continue opposing the seating of the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] when absolutely no fraud has been found? Because I guess they do not believe that all of us are equal in these United States.

Former Representative Bob Dornan has led a widespread abusive and costly search for voter fraud, claiming that the lost election, that he lost by more than a thousand votes, is due to massive illegal voting by Hispanics. There we go again bashing immigrants, now citizens. And yet, after \$300,000 of taxpayer money has been expended, no fraud has been found.

Stop bashing Hispanics, count them. And leave the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] alone to do her job for the 46th District of California.

NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1997

(Mr. ENSIGN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENSIGN. Madam Speaker, I rise to talk about the nuclear waste bill of this year. Almost 80,000 tons of nuclear waste are going to be transported on our roads throughout America.

What most people do not understand is that the private companies that will be shipping this waste, if they happen to have a driver who is drunk, driving in the middle of the night through, say, St. Louis, Denver, Kansas City, Omaha, Chicago, Atlanta, Salt Lake City, Philadelphia, or Los Angeles, all of those cities this nuclear waste will be transported through, if one of the drivers of these rigs happens to crash

through a house because they were drunk, this nuclear waste bill will protect that company from any kind of lawsuit.

Madam Speaker, this is outrageous. This Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997 needs to go down in flames. It is wrong for America. It protects the wrong people. We need to vote against it.

MS. SANCHEZ WON ELECTION FAIR AND SQUARE

(Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, several weeks ago this House took the extraordinary action of banning Bob Dornan from the floor because of the embarrassing display he put on for the Members of this House and the American people.

What is unfortunate is that even though he has been banned from this floor, neither he nor the Republican party have given up on trying to restore his seat that he lost fairly and squarely to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ].

The Republican Party has continued to go after the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ], and I fear the reason they are going after her, frankly, is because she is a woman and a minority. They think she is fair game. And even though she won the election fair and square, they are trying to reverse a decision that was made by the people of California.

The people have spoken, Madam Speaker, and what we should do is we should honor that election. There have been allegations of fraud, but there certainly have not been any allegations of fraud sufficient to upset this election. This election should not be put aside. It should stand.

The people of California, in 1998, can decide at that time whether the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] should be allowed to continue in office. But it is wrong for her and it is wrong for the democratic process to take that seat now.

WHITE HOUSE CHAMPIONS THE IRS

(Mr. ROGAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGAN. Madam Speaker, during this last week, the other body has conducted hearings that are extremely significant to all Americans. We finally had a congressional committee turn over the rock at the IRS. What we heard were horror stories coming from citizens, taxpayers, and even from IRS agents who testified anonymously.

It did not surprise me, Madam Speaker, to see on the front page of U.S.A. Today that 69 percent of Americans believe the IRS abuses power often—not just now and then, but often. What did surprise me, Madam Speaker, was to

see on the front page of the Washington Times, in response to a Republican congressional proposal that a citizen oversight board protect Americans from the IRS, that the "White House champions the IRS." The headlines say that "the President opposes citizen oversight."

Republicans in this Chamber, Madam Speaker, have made clear that the status quo with the IRS is unacceptable. I hope that the President will reconsider his apparent refusal to see citizens oversee the IRS, instead of having it the other way around.

CALL HALT TO INVESTIGATION OF MS. SANCHEZ

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say enough is enough. It is time to call a halt to the investigation of the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ].

Today's resolution on the floor is nothing more than an effort by the majority party to extend and to expand this investigation. The resolution has no authority to force the Justice Department to do anything. In fact, it will only impede the ongoing legal process.

The resolution is simply an attempt by the Republican Party to create enough smoke to steal this election. If they cannot do that, they hope to simply wear the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] down, depleting her time, her energy, and her financial resources in order to weaken her for reelection.

The gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] won this seat fair and square. Bob Dornan's wild accusations of voter fraud have been proven false. This is an outrageous waste of taxpayers' funds. It is time to call an end to this investigation.

LIBERALS CREATED THE SYSTEM WE HAVE

(Mr. ADERHOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I am truly struck by the volume and breadth of passion displayed by our liberal friends on the other side. Their compassion and zeal for campaign finance reform is touching, to say the least. And when they chant over and over "the system is rotten to the core," I am really impressed.

But then I started thinking, something that liberals never want people to do. I started thinking about the system. And you know what, Madam Speaker? Liberals created the system we have. For liberals to come to the floor and bemoan the system is just a little misplaced and more than a little insincere.

Madam Speaker, liberals realize the trouble the White House and the DNC are getting into, and they know they have been sold out. The liberals do not want campaign finance reform, they want to change the subject.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Madam Speaker, a bipartisan group of freshmen legislators have crafted a campaign finance reform bill that can pass with strong support from Members on both sides of the aisle.

This is not a radical measure. It is incremental and focuses exclusively on areas of consensus between Republicans and Democrats. No partisan poison pills were included in the bill.

I urge the leadership to bring a measure up that appeals to both sides like this one, not a bill loaded with partisan politics. Madam Speaker, the American people want to see reform, not political games on this floor. It is time to bring up campaign finance reform measures that address the issues we all agree on.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, when the White House was having organized fundraising events in the Lincoln bedroom for Democrat fundraising purposes, when it was raised by Republicans, Democrats said, "You are being partisan."

When the Vice President of the United States raised thousands and thousands of dollars in a Buddhist temple from Buddhist monks and nuns, who had to take vows of poverty but they came up with \$5,000 each, we were called antireligious.

Now, because of some very questionable voting tactics in the California race, we are being dragged into this thing on a race count. You know, fair elections are not the domain of the party that lost, it belongs to everybody, Democrats and Republicans. We have a situation here where files have been subpoenaed.

The legislation that we are having to pass today, which I hope all the Democrats join us in voting for, simply says give us the files so we can get to the bottom of this. We want to know whether it is fair or not, because it is not a Democrat or Republican issue.

OUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY IS UNDER ATTACK

(Ms. FURSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FURSE. Madam Speaker, as an immigrant, as a Member of Congress,

as one who won her second race by a very small minority, I want to say that I am appalled that new voters, and especially voters who have Hispanic surnames, are being targeted by the attacks on the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ].

All of us, all of us, our right to privacy, is under attack; and this attack is coming from a man who was not allowed to serve on this floor, Bob Dornan. It is time that the choice of the voters be honored. We who represent the people of our district must reject this attack on our democratic election process. We must reject this resolution. We must support what the voters supported, the election of the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] to serve the people of her district.

MARRIAGE TAX ELIMINATION ACT

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Madam Speaker, let me address the House with a fairly simple question: Do Americans feel that it is fair that our Tax Code imposes a higher tax on married working couples? Do Americans feel it is fair that we tax married couples more than those who live together, with two incomes, outside a marriage? Do Americans feel that it is fair that 21 million average, middle-class married couples pay an average of almost \$1,400 more in taxes than a working couple with identical dual incomes living outside of marriage?

I do not believe so. I believe that the folks back home, those who pay the bills, pay their taxes on time and live by the rules, also believe it is unfair. The marriage tax should be eliminated.

The Marriage Tax Elimination Act, which now enjoys the cosponsorship of 193 Members of this House, both Democrats and Republicans, will eliminate the marriage penalty. My colleagues, I ask for bipartisan support next year and we make it a bipartisan priority to eliminate the marriage tax.

□ 1030

UNITED STATES SHOULD LEAD THE FIGHT TO RID THE WORLD OF LANDMINES

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, 89 nations agreed in Oslo recently to an international treaty to ban landmines. This achievement is the product of years of hard work by humanitarian groups in the United States and around the globe and honors the legacy of the late Princess Diana. Unfortunately, the administration has decided not to sign the Ottawa treaty.

I fear we have missed an historic opportunity to do the right thing. The

United States should lead the fight to rid the world of landmines.

The President said that total landmine ban was a line he could not cross for the safety of our troops. Their safety is of fundamental importance, but there are alternatives to mines that can protect our soldiers.

A child in Angola does not see the line between farm and minefield and does not know where she can safely cross. Every 22 minutes, an innocent civilian is killed or maimed by a landmine.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members and citizens across the country to call on the President to think of that little girl, do the right thing and sign the Ottawa Treaty in December.

CALLING INVESTIGATION OF VOTER FRAUD A WITCH HUNT OR ATTACK ON HISPANICS IS UTTER NONSENSE

(Ms. PRYCE of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, never have we heard or seen a more shameless, despicable display of playing the race card from the bottom of the deck than that we are seeing here today with regard to the disputed Sanchez election.

I have heard investigations into voter fraud described as a witch hunt, an attack on all Hispanic voters, and an unprecedented attack on Hispanics throughout the Nation. I have heard our constitutional duty to ensure fair and honest elections characterized as targeting every Hispanic voter as if they did not have the right to vote.

What utter nonsense. Fair and honest elections are not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. Is the other side really suggesting that voter fraud should not be investigated? Is the other side really suggesting that non-U.S. citizens should be able to vote?

The other side's reckless, irresponsible, and deliberately inflammatory charges are an insult to this great institution, to the American ideal of fair and honest elections.

WONDERING WHAT IRS WOULD MAKE OF WHITE HOUSE EXCUSES FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWBREAKING

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, one wonders what the IRS would make of the excuses the White House makes whenever it comes to campaign finance law breaking. How ironic it is that the same administration that has an IRS out of control, an IRS that targets average citizens for political purposes, especially if they happen to work for the White House Travel Office, or used to,