

the basis for us to go forward and correct what I believe was a serious mistake we made in the last Congress.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mrs. BOXER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

WORKING TOGETHER ON THE ABORTION ISSUE

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I just heard my colleague talk about information that he feels would lead people to change their view on the tragic issue of late-term abortion. I want to make a clear point that I made today to the press when they asked me about this. I think it is deplorable that anyone on any side of this issue would knowingly misstate the truth, on any side. There is no excuse for that. We can't resolve problems in this Nation if people don't tell the truth.

The issue here is—and I think it is very important to state it—that under Roe versus Wade, which is the law of the land and has been upheld by the Supreme Court several times, a woman has a right to choose, without Government interference, in the early stages of her pregnancy. Now, that is a matter of debate. Some colleagues here think that is a very bad decision by the Court. Some colleagues here would like to outlaw abortion at any stage. But what Roe versus Wade said is postviability. Once the fetus is viable, the Government can come in and regulate abortion. I agree with that.

What Roe versus Wade says is that the Government can regulate abortion at the postviability stage very clearly, as long as the life of the woman is protected and her health is protected.

Now, Mr. President, I think we owe it to the women of this Nation to ensure that they do not die, and if they have a very complicated pregnancy, where if they were to carry the child to term, they would lose their life or endure severe adverse health consequences where perhaps they could be paralyzed for life or become infertile—we had women, several of whom were religious Catholics and consider themselves pro-life, that had to go through and endure this procedure because they were told either their life was at stake or they could never carry another child.

So the issue isn't about how many times this procedure is used. My view is that even if it is used once incorrectly, it is wrong. I think what we ought to do is say that we should never allow an abortion in the late term, postviability, unless it is necessary to protect the life of the woman or her health. And I think that what we ought to start doing in this U.S. Senate is to start to come together on a couple of things. I don't think we are ever going to agree on the basis of Roe versus Wade. I think my friend from Indiana believes that abortion is wrong, and he is willing to outlaw it. I support Roe versus Wade. We have a fair disagreement. So we can't come together on that.

I think we can come together on two issues surrounding this difficult issue. First, family planning. We ought to all support family planning, so that every child is a wanted child and so that the number of abortions would drop dramatically. I was so pleased to see colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle join with colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle and make a profamily planning statement. We ought to come together on that, and we ought to come together on the issue of late-term abortion. We ought to say it should not be allowed, unless it is necessary to save the life of a mother or spare her irreparable harm.

I really think we have an opportunity now, because this issue has been brought up again, to walk down the aisle together on those two points—family planning and on the late-term abortion issue. Consistent with Roe versus Wade, we can do that.

So, Mr. President, I know we will be revisiting this issue. I will, once again, bring to the floor the stories of the women who had to have these procedures, postviability, because their life was in danger or they might have been infertile. I will continue to put the woman's face on the issue. I hope we can reach agreement, in a bipartisan way, on this matter and move forward so that, in essence, we can reduce the number of abortions in this country and that every child can be a healthy and a wanted child. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

ABORTION

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, let me commend the distinguished Senator from California for her remarks. I find myself in complete agreement with what she has just said. I hope that this year, as opposed to last year, we can find a solution, that we can resolve the differences that may not be insurmountable in coming to grips with both of the issues—family planning and late-term abortion.

If we can find the language that says that, with respect to all procedures, postviability abortions ought to be outlawed, except in those rare, rare circumstances involving the life and emergency health situations so that we would protect the woman from irreparable harm or enable her to have another child at a later date, is something that I hope we can all support and come together to resolve. So, again, I thank her for her comments, and I would like to work very much with the Senator from Indiana, who has spent a lot of time on this issue to resolve this matter in a successful way sometime this session.

SENATOR GLENN'S RETIREMENT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, last Thursday our colleague, Senator JOHN

GLENN, announced he will be retiring from the Senate at the end of his current term in 1998. While I am saddened by his decision, I certainly understand it, and I want to take a few moments to pay tribute to a man who has given a lifetime of service to his country.

Soldier, astronaut, hero, businessman, statesman, nuts-and-bolts reformer. All of these words accurately describe the long, distinguished career of JOHN GLENN. Courage, tenacity, modesty, authenticity, the "Right Stuff." These words describe the character of JOHN GLENN, the ingredients that have made this great career so memorable.

When he retires on the cusp of the 21st century, JOHN GLENN will likely be remembered as one of the great American heroes of the 20th century, both for his heroism in battle and for conquering the peaceful but uncharted frontiers of space. But he should also be remembered as a Senator who helped prepare his government to enter the 21st century as a modern, efficient force for good in people's lives.

JOHN GLENN first answered his country's call when he joined the Naval Aviation Cadet Program shortly after Pearl Harbor. He was commissioned in the Marines in 1943. First Lieutenant GLENN flew nearly 60 combat missions in the Pacific theater. His great courage and skill earned him 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 10 Air Medals.

After the war, JOHN GLENN remained in the Marines, was promoted to the rank of major, then distinguished himself once again in the Korean conflict. He flew 90 combat missions in just 8 months, won 2 more Distinguished Flying Crosses, 8 more Air Medals, and numerous accolades from his fellow Marines, including the titles Mig-mad Marine."

JOHN GLENN could have retired from the military after Korea and entered civilian life a decorated hero. He chose instead to stay in the service and take on more challenges, including new frontiers that, at that time, existed only in the imaginations of most men.

As a military test pilot in 1957, JOHN GLENN established a new flight speed record, earning credit for the first-ever transcontinental supersonic flight. This record flight also earned him his fifth Distinguished Flying Cross and caught the eye of NASA's Project Mercury program, dedicated to launch the first human into space. As a Mercury astronaut, JOHN GLENN put in many months of intense training, and in 1961 he was chosen to make America's first attempt to orbit the Earth.

Numerous technical and weather problems delayed his attempt for 2 months. One can only imagine the pressure of an on-again, off-again wait for a risky, dangerous feat that no man had ever accomplished. But JOHN GLENN's moment finally came when an Atlas-D rocket launched his tiny capsule, *Friendship 7*, into Earth's orbit on February 20, 1962.

After the first of three planned orbits at up to 162 miles away from Earth, he lost the use of the automatic control mechanism that stabilized his craft. He then had to complete the final two orbits of the 81,000-mile flight under manual control, an incredibly dangerous challenge. In an interview some years later, JOHN GLENN said of this moment: "I was fully aware of the danger. And certainly there was apprehension. No matter what preparation you make, there comes the moment of truth. You're playing with big stakes—your life. But the important thing to me wasn't fear, but what you can do to control it."

JOHN GLENN left the Marine Corps in 1965 after 23 years of remarkable service. These two heroic decades are emblazoned on the American conscience. They are the material of which books are written and movies made.

But JOHN GLENN's Senate career of more than two decades will be the material serious students of government, cost-conscious taxpayers, and anyone concerned with the spread of dangerous nuclear weapons will remember. It is a career full of quiet, serious dedication to serve the people of Ohio, to make our Government work better, and to make our world safe from the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

We will remember JOHN GLENN's Senate career for many things. Among his accomplishments, Senator GLENN used his Governmental Affairs Committee post to root out Government waste, modernize Government, and save taxpayer dollars. Senator GLENN shepherded the Clinton administration's reinventing Government initiatives through the Senate. His efforts helped streamline Federal purchasing procedures and trim the federal workforce by 250,000 employees to the lowest level since John Kennedy was President.

He fought to create Chief Financial Officers for most major federal agencies, making those agencies more accountable and efficient. He helped to install independent inspectors general in nearly 40 Government agencies and offices to ferret out wasteful spending, saving taxpayers hundreds of millions per year.

In the last few years, Senator GLENN extended his hand across the aisle to help pass legislation that brought Congress into compliance with Federal workplace laws. He fought for the bill that made it harder for Congress to pass on unfunded mandates to the States and localities. And he worked to pass legislation aimed at reducing the Government's paperwork volume.

Senator GLENN has never disparaged Government service nor bashed Government workers. He knows and recognizes the honor of public service. But he also knows that waste and lack of accountability undermine public confidence in Government, and he has dedicated a Senate career to combating them.

Senator GLENN also made a career of fighting for a strong defense that bal-

ances the demands of national security and common sense. He authored the 1978 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act, the only law on the books to control and stop the spread of nuclear weapons around the world.

A tenacious advocate for veterans, he led the effort to elevate the Veterans Administration to cabinet-level status and helped pass a package of benefits for troops serving in the Persian Gulf war. At the same time, Senator GLENN fought against weapons systems he considered wasteful, like the B-2, the MX missile, and the Star Wars program. He brought rare experience as a veteran and military hero to these efforts. He was rarely wrong, and he rarely lost a legislative battle.

Mr. President, the Senate community can be a contentious place. But because of people like JOHN GLENN and his wife, Annie, it can also be a friendly, decent, and inspiring place, where someone can serve with a real American hero who is also a true gentleman. Our Senate family, like the people of Ohio, will miss Senator GLENN when he retires in 1999. For your lifetime of service, we are deeply indebted, and we thank you, Senator, gentleman, and American hero, JOHN GLENN.

I yield the floor.

Mr. GLENN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair is honored to recognize the Senator from Ohio.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I just wanted to thank my good friend for those overly generous and very kind remarks.

It was not without a lot of feeling and emotion that I made the decision not to run again in 1998. But, as I said, we have never invented a cure for the common birthday. And at the end of my next term I would be 83, if I assumed that I won. It was for that reason and that reason only that I chose not to run.

My good friend, the minority leader, is absolutely right. I think one of the biggest things we have to face is some of the disparaging remarks about Government when some people talk down Government. And we are going to be working on those things over the next 2 years.

I happened to be in the cloakroom. I had been in another meeting, and just happened to come out here on the floor. I had not realized that this was going to be a time when the minority leader was going to be making the remarks. And I just wanted to say how much I appreciate it.

Mr. COATS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I didn't have the opportunity to respond to the Senator from California when she stated her willingness to reexamine the issue of partial-birth abortion. The minority leader was on the floor waiting

to speak, and had reserved time for that.

However, I would like to just say that, No. 1, I am pleased that they are willing to revisit the issue. It is an issue that I think deserve revisiting.

I want to correct some information that might be misconstrued, as referenced by the Senator from California—the fact that, if we could just make sure that we provided an exception for women whose lives were in danger, were the procedure not proposed. As I think the Senator remembers, that was clearly addressed in the bill that was before the Senate last Congress—that exception for life of the mother was clearly stated in that language. Now this whole addition of the well health of the mother—first of all, as the Senator from Pennsylvania [Senator SANTORUM] so eloquently described, there were no instances, there were no partial-birth abortions performed to protect the health of the mother. There was a lot of erroneous misinformation discussed about that. And this has always been the reason why opponents—of whatever attempts are made to address the question of abortion from the pro-life side—it is always, "If we could just add the exception for health of the mother."

As we have learned over the years and as has been demonstrated in numerous court holdings and other information that is presented to us, health of the mother is so broadly defined. Are we talking about psychological health of the mother, emotional health of the mother? It has really just been used as an excuse to provide abortionists, doctors who perform abortions, a basis for simply saying we will use this exception to allow the abortion to go forward.

I really think what we are dealing with here is a procedure that goes beyond the pale. It really, as many have said in the debate, is not an abortion issue. It is not a pro-choice abortion issue. This is the issue of a deliberate taking of life, of a fetus, of a baby that is well beyond the age of viability, however that is defined. My own personal belief is that life begins at conception.

Even if you do not agree with my personal belief on this, there is no question that at the 5th, 6th and 7th month, the times when partial-birth abortions are performed, because the head of the child is so large it cannot be extracted through the birth canal and therefore has to be collapsed by the doctor after the baby is killed, there is no question that the partial-birth abortion issue is one that is not in the purview of what we generally have been talking about on the pro-life pro-choice issues. It is clearly a situation where we have a baby who, if born at that moment, would be able to sustain life. Someone said 3 inches and 3 seconds from being declared murder.

I remember the situation when the young couple in New Jersey, I think it was, was arrested for the killing of