

This young, 26-year-old single mother died last May after she ingested a GHB laced drink while on a business trip.

She was a vibrant young woman who had worked hard for most of her life to achieve, despite the setbacks she had faced. She lost her mother to cancer when she was 13 and she had a child while in high school. However, Kerri was able to get her GED and at the time of her death she worked at an insurance firm where she had just received her insurance license.

On the night of her death, Kerri was on a business trip in Syracuse, New York. She had drinks with a colleague and then went to her room. The next morning, her roommate found Kerri dead on the bathroom floor. There is still a murder investigation going on to determine how this drug got into Kerri's drink.

We must commit to passing legislation that will schedule GHB.

I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) for sharing this story with me. Kerri Breton was a resident of his district in New York, and this tragic story was sent by Ms. Breton's stepfather, Roger Voight. The gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) has recently joined us as a cosponsor of this important legislation.

I urge my colleagues to immediately have hearings on scheduling GHB and for this House to pass this legislation expeditiously so that we can save the lives of young people like Kerri Breton and give tribute to the loss of their lives and avoid these tragedies in the years to come.

NO MORE SOCIAL SECURITY SLUSH FUND

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

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, while the White House is busy working on a plausible explanation as to how atomic espionage at Energy Department labs was ignored over the last 3 years, Republicans have been busy putting together a budget that reflects responsible common sense conservative values.

For 40 years, the Democrats failed to take Social Security off the table, turning the Social Security Administration trust fund into a Washington slush fund. Well, those days are over. The Republican budget is going to do what should have been done a long time ago. It puts the Social Security surplus into a safe deposit box.

Long-time observers of Washington know that we need a safe deposit box to keep big spending liberals from running off with it. The Social Security trust fund should not be a slush fund. The Republican budget takes 100 percent of the retirement surplus and sets it aside for Social Security and Medicare.

We are going to hang a huge sign on the safe deposit box with a message, "no liberals allowed. Do not touch."

DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE BUDGET

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

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to offer prayers and hope for our situation that we face today in Kosova.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about the democratic alternative budget, a budget that extends Social Security until the year 2050 and saves Medicare, which will run out of money in 2008 unless we do save it.

I am happy that the Democrats are proposing 77 percent for Social Security and to save Medicare to the year 2020. We also fully fund the President's education request. The other budget resolution does not. We offer money for child care. The other budget resolution does not.

Mr. Speaker, we offer \$1.9 billion for our veterans and their families. Let us support the democratic budget alternative that saves Social Security and Medicare, helps our veterans, helps our children as we move to the 21st Century.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET ACTUALLY EXPANDS ENTITLEMENT SPENDING

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, how soon we forget. President Clinton just 3 years ago proposed a five year budget that would have added \$1.2 trillion to the national debt. That is \$200 billion deficits every year for as far as the eye could see.

The Republicans said no.

They said no to big government.

They said no to using phony numbers.

They said no to a national health care system that his own party admitted would have pushed the deficit into the stratosphere.

So Congress insisted on passing a bipartisan budget that balanced and kept the lid on spending.

Well here we go again. It is back to budget-busting time.

Once again, it is going to be up to Congress to act like grownups and keep the lid on spending.

The President's budget actually expands entitlement spending, puts the Medicare program in jeopardy only one year after we acted to save it, and goes back to tax increases that hurt the economy.

Tax and spend, tax and spend. No matter how good the White House can spin it, and they are very good, this budget is a tax and spend budget that takes us in the wrong direction.

COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE DUMPING IN AMERICA'S MARKETS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. trade deficit is projected to exceed \$200 billion this year. Japan will once again exceed \$60 billion in surplus. If that is not enough to tax your exports, China is expected to take a \$70 billion chunk of money in trade surplus from Uncle Sam. Unbelievable.

Countries all over the world are dumping in our markets. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. If our trade policy is so good, why does not Japan do it? Why does not China do it? Why does not Europe do it?

The truth is, our trade policy is about as effective as tits on a boar hog.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back our stupidity and I yield back our other cheeks.

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN INDIA

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about human rights abuses in India today.

As we may know, Christians and other religious minorities have faced terrible persecution in India recently. In January, an extremist mob burned alive an Australian missionary and his two sons who were trapped in their car.

This is not the first instance of persecution. Over Christmas, churches throughout India were burned and destroyed. Christians' homes were looted and stoned, and Christian individuals were attacked and stoned.

In January, missionaries and seminary students were attacked and beaten with rods. Then just last week, an extremist Hindu group called Vishwa Hindu burned 150 Christian homes in Orissa's Gajapati District and terrorized the Christian community with homemade guns.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Indian government to take decisive action to stop this continuing violence and bring to justice those who have committed the crimes, and protect the rights of all minority religious believers in India.

STOP THE KILLING IN KOSOVA NOW

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I apologize in advance to my colleagues and to the American people who may be offended by what I am about to show but I think it is very, very important in view of the events of today that we show this.

This is a poster. It shows a dead child who was killed with ethnic cleansing in

Kosova, and it says his mother will never have to see him this way. They killed her, too.

My colleagues, this is what is going on today in Kosova, and I say Kosova because 92 percent of the population, the ethnic Albanians who live there, call it Kosova and they were being ethnically cleansed.

We need to stop it. We need to support the bombing. We need to support NATO troops on the ground. NATO is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It is concerned about genocide in Europe as it rightly should be.

Milosevic, the Serbian leader, has broken every agreement to which he has agreed. The U.S. vital interests are there. We have a vital interest to stop genocide. We have a vital interest to stop a wider war which will surely happen in the Balkans if we sit back and do nothing. It could suck in our allies, Greece and Turkey and Hungary and other countries.

We need to support U.S. troops. We need to support the bombing. Stop the killing in Kosova now. Stop the genocide and the ethnic cleansing.

THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET CONTRASTED WITH THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, let us compare and contrast the Republican budget with the President's budget.

The Republican's budget saves more for Social Security and Medicare. The President's budget cuts \$9 billion from Medicare.

The Republican budget enforces balanced budget discipline. The President's budget busts the budget caps by \$30 billion.

The Republican budget provides middle class tax relief. The President's budget, surprise, surprise, raises taxes by \$172 billion.

One budget reflects the common sense conservatism of responsible government that gives people more freedom and a higher standard of living. The other budget reflects the instinct to expand government at every turn, all the while shortchanging our seniors.

The Republican budget strengthens retirement security first. It protects seniors and sticks to the historic balanced budget agreement signed by the President only 2 short years ago.

This is a budget Americans can applaud.

HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA, A LOT OF TALK AND A LOT OF CHALK

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

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, like a lot of my colleagues, I went up to Her-

shey, Pennsylvania, had a lot of talk and a lot of chalk. We went up to talk about how we are going to restore civility in this body. We talked about unfair allocation of staff and money. We talked about unfair committee ratios, the most unfair in 50 years.

We did not talk about the unfortunate thing that happened this morning, and that is the unavailability of rooms for Democratic members to meet in this body.

Now we can talk about the prerogatives of the Chair and the Republicans to run this place. I do not have any quarrel and I do not really expect to win, but I do expect to have fair treatment and a fair opportunity to talk.

The question is, are the Republicans going to mean what they said about restoring civility?

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Yesterday we came back and voted on staff and money, an unfair allocation of both. But to just say that they cannot make rooms available for the Democrats to meet, it looks like the preponderance of the growing evidence is the Republicans do not intend to be fair, and that the spirit of Hershey has gone.

THE REPUBLICAN PLAN SETS ASIDE 100 PERCENT OF BUDGET SURPLUS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. HILL of Montana. Mr. Speaker, last fall the President said we should set aside 100 percent of social security for social security. I voted to support him in that. But in January he stood here at the State of the Union and said, no, we are going to put aside 62 percent for social security. Then in February he submitted a budget that said 57 percent for social security. And then if we look at his proposal, he really sets aside zero for social security. In five months we have gone from 100 percent to 62 percent to 57 percent to zero, and that has been the history of social security.

There are a lot of different opinions about how we ought to reform social security, but every single senior that I talked to in Montana says, let us start by stopping the raid on the social security trust fund.

There are three ways to do that. One, today, let us support a supplemental that is offset, so we do not raid social security for foreign aid. Let us support the budget, that sets aside 100 percent of social security for social security. Then let us support the social security and Medicare safe deposit box, where there be no more raids, not for tax cuts or spending increases. No more shell games. We are going to save every dollar, 100 percent for social security. We can start today.

THE SPIRIT OF HERSEY: RESPECT FOR DIFFERENCES OF OPINION

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

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I truly hope that the spirit of Hershey is not gone already. Last weekend we had the second congressional bipartisan civility retreat in Hershey, Pennsylvania. We tried, in short, to come together to find a way where we can still disagree on issues without being so disagreeable.

I believe we made some progress last weekend. But to be on the safe side, we were honored to have with us Sir John Hume, the Nobel Peace prize winner of last year, due to his role in negotiating the peace agreement in Northern Ireland. We were hoping to get some wise words from him. I believe he delivered.

He reminded us in attendance that, "Differences of opinion should not be viewed as a threat. The answer to difference is not to fight about it but to respect it, for the differences are the essence of humanity, because there are no two people in the world who are the same."

As we begin debates that seriously affect the Nation and our future, such as Kosovo, such as the budget, I would hope and pray that we remember these wise words from Sir John Hume.

THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET IS HONEST ABOUT OUR NATION'S RETIREMENT SECURITY

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, this week we are going to debate two clearly different visions of America. As Members know, we are going to debate the budget that will be presented for the year 2000.

The President's budget would raise taxes on the middle class of America, it busts the budget caps, and it uses the social security surplus to fund over 120 new government programs. Worst of all, after leaving the Nation's retirement in shaky financial shape, this president is proposing taxes on the middle class' number one guarantee for retirement security, life insurance.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that taxpayers that have been faithful and honest about preparing for their retirement should not see this being taxed. Conversely, this Republican Congress has a taxpayer-friendly budget that protects 100 percent of social security and Medicare surpluses. It practices budgetary constraints, and provides over \$800 billion for tax relief for all middle class taxpayers.

I intend to vote for that which is for Republicans and for the taxpayers of this country.