

Offenders Act. It is my hope that all of us here in America will realize that more laws will not mean more safety. We seem so willing to give up our freedom for just a feeling of a little more safety. The truth is we will not be more safe until we deal with the real problem, the root problem, the human heart.

Two young men in Colorado broke more than 23 laws by brutally murdering 13 students, one teacher, and then took their own lives. One more law, a dozen more laws, would not have stopped them. They needed a change of heart.

Ben Franklin said he who sacrifices liberty for safety will have neither liberty nor safety.

As parents, as neighbors, let us not give up our personal freedoms. Instead let us deal with the real problem. Listen to the children, be a good neighbor, get involved in the community, and together let us make a better America.

GOP STANDS FOR "GUNS OVER PEOPLE"

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Many Republicans who fiercely fight any common sense gun safety measures will try to amend the juvenile crime bill to encourage schools to place the Ten Commandments in their classrooms. That makes sense. After all, it is free publicity for the gun lobby, a good way to reach young people, kids. My colleagues have seen the poster, now see the movie starring Charlton Heston, President of the National Rifle Association.

Now I have read the Ten Commandments, I did not merely watch the Hollywood version, and I seem to recall that they teach us thou shall not kill, and yet assault weapons which the NRA fought to keep on our streets kill. Saturday night specials, the small cheap guns favored by criminals, kill. Weapons purchased unchecked today at gun shows or in the future bought in the parking lots of gun shows, thanks to a loophole wider than the part in the Red Sea, kill.

The man who played Moses and his supporting cast here in Congress should go back and read their script: Thou shall not kill.

Once again it is clear what the letters GOP stand for: Guns over people.

TURNING OUR PUBLIC LANDS INTO A MUSEUM?

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. The Clinton administration is planning to ban the public use on over 5 million acres of public land in six States. 'Why?', my colleagues ask? Well, it seems to appease the liberal extremists, the environmentalists and

specific special environmental interests before the 2000 presidential elections.

Why would this administration deny all Americans, young and old, the right to recreate on their public lands? Why would they want to stop recreation, hunting, fishing, horseback riding and biking? Is there a goal to turn our public lands into a museum?

The President wants to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to stop and prohibit every type of recreational use except walking and, get this, meditating, on these 5 million acres. The Clinton administration claims to know what is best for our public lands, but it's plain to see that they know nothing about management, about multiple use, about the right of my constituents to use their public lands for recreational purposes. The administration should be ashamed for using our Nation's environmental laws as political tools and, not to mention, a means to preserve the assets across this country.

GUNS PREVENT MORE CRIME THAN ANYTHING ELSE

(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, I voted for the Brady bill. I voted to ban certain semiautomatic weapons. I honestly tried to help. But enough is enough. Guns are a two-edge sword, dangerous for sure, but guns prevent more crime than anything else in America, and no one is saying it.

Mr. Speaker, armed robbers just do not fear the welcome wagon, and all the policemen in the world, and I used to be one, may never get there in time.

I say be careful, Congress. Certainly guns are a symptom of great problems in America. But guns are not the root causation of all these problems in America.

GUN CONTROL DEBATE DRIVEN BY POLITICS

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

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I talked about this same issue, and I talked about politics, politics, politics, and, yes, I believe that politics are driving the agenda on this debate. We are going to hear vitriolic attacks from the Democratic side of the aisle when we ought to be settling down to discuss what we can do to improve our laws, to improve the regulations, and, yes, to improve the enforcement of the laws on the books.

Mr. Speaker, it does no good to pass another law if we are not going to do anything about it. Over 6000 incidents since 1996 through 1998 reported of juveniles with possession of firearms at school; only 17 were prosecuted.

Mr. Speaker, I have to refer to the language of our Vice President when he distorts the facts and says one can walk into a gun shop and a pawn shop anywhere in America and buy a handgun if they are 18.

Not so. Let us tone it down. Let us work together.

STOP IMPORT OF HIGH CAPACITY GUN CLIPS

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

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, in 1997 Officer Bruce Vanderjagt in Denver was gunned down by a gun using a semi-automatic weapon clip that held far more than 10 rounds of ammunition. People were shocked. We thought we banned these clips in 1995 when we passed the Crime Control Act, but unfortunately these clips, which have the only purpose as killing a human being, are widely available and legally available in gun shops throughout this country because of a loophole in that act. That loophole allows the unrestricted import of these high capacity magazines from countries like China, Russia and Eastern Europe.

The Senate had the wisdom to pass legislation stopping this loophole and banning these clips that have the only purpose as killing humans. I urge in the next few days that the House do the same and enact this sensible piece of legislation which will stop these clips that only kill human beings.

SERGEANT BOB BRYANT AND LUC COUTURE EXEMPLIFY NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITY SPIRIT

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Sergeant Bob Bryant and Luc Couture of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and more than 550 friends and neighbors who searched the woods of Berlin, New Hampshire, through the early morning hours on May 25 to find 3-year-old Cameron Patry. Sergeant Bryant and Mr. Couture found the young boy after he had been lost for more than 20 cold and rainy hours in the dense woods. These 2 State of New Hampshire employees, along with hundreds of volunteers who helped with the search, best exemplify our community's spirit, camaraderie, compassion in New Hampshire and all of America. Although cold, wet and tired, young Cameron was found in good shape and returned to his worried parents.

To Sergeant Bryant, Mr. Couture and all those who gave their time, prayers and comfort to the Patry family I would like to express my sincere appreciation, as does the grateful State of New Hampshire and Congress.

POINT REYES FARMLAND PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am back. I am back because our country continues to lose farmland at an alarming rate. I am back because I again have introduced legislation to protect the beautiful farmland near the Point Reyes National Seashore in my congressional district just north of San Francisco, across the Golden Gate Bridge.

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This land is 40 miles from San Francisco. It is under heavy threat for development, and because of that, I am introducing the Point Reyes Farmland Protection Act of 1999, H.R. 2202.

This bill establishes that a local-Federal partnership, completely voluntary, will make it possible for landowners to sell their conservation easements, and that these local landowners are willing sellers. The goal is to protect the productive and pristine family farms that are a way of life in my district.

In the last Congress I had similar legislation that was supported by 228 bipartisan cosponsors. Please join me to protect agriculture. Sign onto the Point Reyes Farmland Protection Act, H.R. 2202.

URGING MEMBERS TO SUPPORT VALIANT MEN AND WOMEN FASTING FOR DEMOCRACY IN CUBA

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the courageous fasts that began last week in Havana are gaining momentum as dozens of dissidents across the enslaved island of Cuba join the public protest started in Tamarindo 34, peacefully demanding freedom of expression and the release of hundreds of political prisoners.

One of the heroines currently fasting is Magaly de Armas, wife of Vladimiro Roca, one of the four opposition members imprisoned earlier this year for criticizing a communist party document that they dared to say did not present solutions to Cuba's problems.

Roca is also fasting, his will unshaken by Castro's torturous prison in Cienfuegos, and has asked his countrymen to join him in what is becoming a national movement.

On behalf of Vladimiro Roca, Felix Bonne, Rene Gomez Manzano, Marta Beatriz Roque Cabello, and all of the other political prisoners unjustly shackled by Fidel Castro, I ask my colleagues to support the valiant men and women currently fasting. We pray that their courageous democracy efforts become the beginning of true liberty on the island.

DISAPPOINTING LEGISLATION FROM THE HOUSE LEADERSHIP ON GUN SAFETY AND SCHOOL VIOLENCE

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

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, disappointed in this House. I come from the district in California with the highest gun registration. Four years ago, when I ran for Congress and I walked 60,000 households door-to-door, I came across a lot of those gun owners, hunters, people who liked to go down to the range and shoot their guns, people who collect guns.

But they agreed with me, they agreed that decent people who want to own guns do not mind waiting to have their background checked. They agreed that there were too many weapons in criminals' hands, especially in an urban area like the one I represent.

That was before Jonesboro, that was before Littleton, and that was before last week, just this past weekend, when one of our deputy sheriffs in Orange County was sitting in his patrol car and was gunned down, riddled by someone with a machine gun who was mad because this officer had stopped him 3 weeks before.

Mr. Speaker, we need real legislation to help America.

ELDER BASEBALL TEAM EXTENDS INCREDIBLE TITLE STREAK

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, Cincinnati's Elder High School took it down to the wire last week when their great baseball team traveled to Canton, Ohio, to play for the State championship. When the smoke cleared, the Panthers had accomplished a truly extraordinary feat. They had succeeded in winning a State title in 6 consecutive decades with 11 championships overall.

My brother, Ron, is a 1965 Elder graduate. I am an alumnus of arch rival LaSalle. I have to give credit where credit is due, Elder's accomplishment is phenomenal, and all of us who reside in Cincinnati's Western Hills are proud of their great achievement. Their commitment to excellence and their tradition of hard work have paid off. Once again they have made all of Cincinnati proud.

To coach Mark Thompson, the Panther squad, and all their families and fans, I offer my heartfelt congratulations.

From an old Lancer to all the Panthers, well done.

CALLING ATTENTION TO WEBSITE AND FAMILY INTERNET TOOLBOX

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

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I know an important part of controlling youth violence is controlling the violence that children are exposed to.

These days a lot of violence is hitching a ride on the information superhighway. Parents are concerned about the violent influences of the Internet. A recent poll shows that 75 percent of high school students believe the Internet responsible for the shootings in Littleton.

I propose that Internet service providers be required to provide their customers with the necessary filtering software. The other body has already approved legislation to that end. I urge my colleagues in the House to do the same.

In the interim, I would like to draw Members' attention to my web site. It is Family Internet Toolbox, which offers software, tips, and links to safer surfing at www.house.gov/rholt. I hope Members and their constituents will find it useful.

REPUBLICANS BELIEVE THAT LOW TAXES ARE FAIRER THAN HIGH TAXES, AND PEOPLE SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR

(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, too many Americans liberals have a strange concept of fairness. When it comes to taxes, the liberals' idea of fairness strikes me and most Americans as very unfair.

If one person works twice as hard as another, most people do not think it is unfair if he earns twice as much. A liberal would disagree. As a matter of fact, the liberal tends to demonize the harder working person.

Most people do not think it is unfair that people who sacrifice income through long and difficult years in college and even graduate school expect to find jobs which pay higher than other jobs for their efforts. Yet, we find liberals constantly railing against people who are rewarded for their educational sacrifices as the rich, and presumably not entitled to the rewards they worked so hard to obtain.

I find the tax on the rich and any class of people profoundly un-American.

Republicans believe that low taxes, low taxes on all Americans, rich or poor, are more fair than high taxes. Should not freedom mean that people are entitled to the fruits of their labor?

CHARACTER EDUCATION

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