

sexual abuse, our work is not done with the passage of this resolution. Words alone will not protect children from the monsters who prey on them.

Typically, sexual predators who victimize children receive light prison sentences in this country. On average, a convicted child molester, that is, not one who plea bargains down to a lesser offense, serves less than 4 years behind bars, and recidivism rates are quoted as high as 70 percent. Those are just the ones who get caught. In other words, they get out of prison and they prey on children again and again. The next time, the pedophiles may end up killing the child to make sure there is not evidence so they can be put away again.

In my opinion, the average sentence is about 96 years too short. The Congress took an important step in addressing this problem recently when both the House and Senate voted with huge bipartisan majorities for Aimee's Law, otherwise known as the No Second Chances for Murderers, Rapists, or Child Molesters Act.

My initiative would encourage States to keep child molesters and other serious criminals behind bars for longer sentences, which would prevent literally thousands each year of 100 percent preventable offenses, either child sexual assaults or other crimes that occur each year by those who are let out of prison for committing exactly the same crime.

Before I close, I would like to thank the distinguished majority whip, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for their assistance in moving House Concurrent Resolution 107 forward.

I also would like to thank the gentlemen from Pennsylvania, Mr. PITTS and Mr. WELDON, for all of their work on the resolution.

Finally, the Family Research Council should be commended for their efforts to educate Members of Congress about how the public release of the Meta-Analytic study is an assault on children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to make a strong congressional statement in opposition to efforts to normalize child sexual abuse, and vote in favor of House Concurrent Resolution 107.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I join those who rise to condemn child sexual abuse. Too many of our children fall prey to sexual abuse, often by those whom they know and too often by those whom they trust.

Statistics show that 90 percent of all sexual abuse cases go unreported, and worse, unpunished. Nevertheless, child sexual abuse can have devastating consequences on a victim's future employment, health, and familial relationships.

We need to continue to reach out as a Nation and as a society to ensure that our children are free from abuse and neglect. This involves a three-pronged approach of education, prevention, and treatment.

We need to continue our educational efforts with young children to teach them what is and what is not appropriate behavior by adults. We need to continue prevention efforts aimed at reducing the likelihood that our children will find themselves in inappropriate situations that can lead to abuse.

We also need to provide treatment for those who have been the victims of abuse so they can recover and lead successful, productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I join those who have and will rise to condemn child sexual abuse. Child sexual abuse not only has devastating consequences for its victims, but also for all of society. It is important to remember that no amount of legal or professional leg-  
 erdemain can detract from the inherent evil caused by child sexual abuse.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the American Psychological Association for clarifying its position on pedophilia. Without question, sexual abuse of minors is child abuse. Child abuse is a plague on this country that cannot be overlooked or obscured by pseudo-scientific doubletalk.

In these times—with so much talk about victimization and harassment—it amazes me that there is any confusion regarding the patently perverse nature of sexual abuse of children. There simply can be no equivocation about the obvious emotional devastation that is caused when adults have sexual relations with children.

Sexual activity between an adult and a child is always abusive and always criminal in all cases—period.

The fact that this obvious reality has been clouded recently is an indictment of the liberal secularization of the culture. Too many of us today worship the self and the moment with no regard for future consequences.

Well, our children are our future and both should be safeguarded. The days ahead will be dark indeed if our society turns a blind eye to abuse of innocent ones.

There can be no compromises in the war against child abuse. We must all be eternally vigilant in this most important cause.

Every so often, trendy social theories and politically-motivated psychological hypotheses creep into the mainstream. At first, such ideas go unchallenged because they seem too crazy to be taken seriously. But after awhile, the momentum shifts against common sense.

Bad ideas have bad consequences and the damage to society must always be combated in every field.

The American Psychological Association made a mistake by publishing a study that used pseudo-scientific jargon to advise that sexual relations between adults and children are not always abusive.

Such a study by such a prestigious institution gives credibility and potential legal defenses to pedophilic sickos.

After the controversy was exposed, the APA admitted its error in publishing the report and underscored its position that pedophilia is

harmful criminal behavior and that all sexual abuse of children should be exposed.

Mr. Speaker, organizations, like people, make mistakes. The test of integrity is the ability to admit a mistake and correct it. The American Psychological Association has shown great courage in doing just this. In the battle against child abuse, the APA is fighting on the right side.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 107, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 107, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

#### URGING THE RELEASE OF THREE PRISONERS IN YUGOSLAVIA

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 144) urging the United States Government and the United Nations to undertake urgent and strenuous efforts to secure the release of Branko Jelen, Steve Pratt, and Peter Wallace, 3 humanitarian workers employed in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by CARE International, who are being unjustly held as prisoners by the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 144

Whereas Branko Jelen, Steve Pratt, and Peter Wallace are 3 humanitarian workers employed in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by CARE International, the relief and development organization, providing food, medicines, and fuel to more than 50,000 Serbian refugees in Serbia and to displaced ethnic Albanians in Kosovo;

Whereas Steve Pratt and Peter Wallace, 2 Australian nationals, were detained on March 31, 1999, and later accused of operating and managing a spy ring and being employed by a spy ring, and Branko Jelen, a citizen of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, was arrested 1 week later on the same charges;

Whereas on March 30, 1999, CARE International received a letter of commendation

from the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia relating to CARE International's humanitarian work in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

Whereas 1 of the 3 men, Steve Pratt, appeared on Serbian television on April 11, 1999, and he was coerced into saying that he had performed covert intelligence activities;

Whereas the 3 CARE International humanitarian workers were held without access to outsiders for 20 days;

Whereas on May 29, 1999, a Serbian military court dismissed every element of the original indictment against the 3 CARE International humanitarian workers, but then proceeded to convict the 3 individuals on an entirely new charge of passing on information to a foreign organization, namely CARE International, and sentenced Pratt to 12 years, Jelen to 6 years, and Wallace to 4 years;

Whereas this last charge was introduced at the reading of the verdict, denying lawyers for the 3 CARE International humanitarian workers any opportunity to mount an appropriate defense;

Whereas it appears the 3 CARE International humanitarian workers were convicted of providing "situation reports" to their head office and other CARE International offices around the world, based on legitimately gathered information, necessary to enable CARE International management to plan their humanitarian assistance in a rapidly changing context and to inform CARE International management of the security situation in which their staff were working;

Whereas the convictions of the 3 CARE International humanitarian workers raise serious questions regarding the ability of humanitarian aid organizations to operate in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, with implications for their operations in other areas of conflict around the world;

Whereas the 3 CARE International humanitarian workers are innocent, having committed no crime, and are being held as prisoners unjustly;

Whereas the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia needs humanitarian workers who feel secure enough to do their work and who are not at risk of going to prison on false charges; and

Whereas many leaders around the world have raised the issue and sought to free the captives, including United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, former South African President Nelson Mandela, Finnish President Marti Ahtisaari, United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson, and the Reverend Jesse Jackson: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) urges the United States Government and the United Nations to undertake urgent and strenuous efforts to secure the release of Branko Jelen, Steve Pratt, and Peter Wallace, 3 humanitarian workers employed in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by CARE International; and

(2) calls upon the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to send a positive signal to the international humanitarian community and to give these humanitarian workers their freedom without further delay.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROTHMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON).

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SALMON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 1999, Serbian authorities detained Mr. Steve Pratt, Mr. Peter Wallace of Australia, and Mr. Branko Jelen of Serbia who were carrying out their duties as employees of CARE/Australia. These men, who were endeavoring to provide humanitarian assistance to victims of Serbian aggression in Kosovo, were subsequently charged with espionage and are now being unjustly held as prisoners in Serbia.

The detention of these individuals strikes at the very heart of the ability of humanitarian and aid organizations such as CARE to operate in conflicts such as the one in Kosovo. It is noteworthy that the actual charges they were convicted of concerned only the passing of situation reports on the conditions in Kosovo to their headquarters in order for CARE to be able to determine the needs of the population it was attempting to assist and the conditions under which its employees were working in Kosovo.

For the Serb authorities to construe these actions as hostile makes a mockery of the terms of their agreement that permitted CARE to operate in Serbia in the first place. Indeed, one day prior to the detention of its employees, CARE had received a letter from the Yugoslavia authorities commending its work.

The continued imprisonment of these men is an affront to the Prime Minister of the entire international community and a threat to the ability of international and private organizations to function under the difficult circumstance they face in numerous countries around the globe.

We would be remiss if we did not also take note of another detention of an individual engaged on a humanitarian mission in North Korea. According to accounts in the press, Ms. Karen Hahn was detained some weeks ago and has been held incommunicado by the known authorities. The welfare of Ms. Hahn is also in our minds as we consider this resolution.

House Concurrent Resolution 144 urges the United States and the United Nations to undertake urgent and strenuous efforts to secure the release from Serbia of the three imprisoned CARE Australia staffers. I urge all members of the House to join me in signalling our demand for the release of these individuals and restoration of our confidence that organizations such as CARE can continue to operate without harassment in the difficult and sometimes dangerous environments that they face throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON),

and I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, and the ranking member, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON) for their support in supporting House Concurrent Resolution 144.

This resolution serves as a reminder that three humanitarian aid workers are now being held unjustly in Yugoslavia. These three CARE workers in the organization called CARE were arrested and falsely accused of espionage.

□ 1430

They were wrongly convicted by a Serbian military court and received sentences ranging from 4 to 12 years.

Let me tell a little bit about the background. Steve Pratt and Peter Wallace are two Australian nationals who were employees of CARE. They were detained on March 31, 1999, and later accused of operating and managing a spy ring and being employed by a spy ring. Branko Jelen, who is a citizen of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, was arrested 1 week later on the same charge.

A couple of months later, on May 29, 1999, a Serbian military court dismissed every element of the original indictment against these three CARE International humanitarian workers. But then the court, the same day, at the same moment, proceeded to convict these three individuals on an entirely new set of charges, namely, as they said, passing on information to a foreign organization, namely CARE International; and then they sentenced Mr. Pratt to 12 years' imprisonment, Mr. Jelen to 6 years' imprisonment and Mr. Wallace to 4 years' imprisonment.

This charge, which they introduced on the day they dismissed all the other charges, was introduced at the time they read the verdict. They said, "You are hereby charged with providing information and you are hereby sentenced." Can my colleagues imagine that? And that was a court of law.

Mr. Speaker, needless to say, it did not provide any opportunity for these three individuals to present any defense to the charges that were instantaneously imposed upon them along with the sentence.

It appears that these three CARE workers were convicted simply of providing situation reports, a standard in the providing of services by CARE International where the workers in the field provide situation reports about the security, about the humanitarian needs in the locale that they are working in.

It raises concerns about the ability of any international humanitarian relief organization to provide relief services anywhere around the world if by merely providing a situation report can get someone convicted, albeit without a trial, of spying.

Leaders around the world, including U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan and Finnish President Ahtisaari, have

raised this issue and have also sought the release of these men.

Mr. Speaker, we as the United States Congress and as an American people need to let all humanitarian workers around the world know that we will fight for them if they ever get unjustly imprisoned. We will let Yugoslavia know by the House's action that we demand the immediate release of these three international humanitarian workers under the employ of CARE, one of the world's largest international relief and development organizations.

I urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 144.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 1999, Serbian authorities detained Mr. Steve Pratt, Mr. Peter Wallace, of Australia, and Mr. Branko Jelen, of Serbia who were carrying out their duties as employees of CARE/Australia. These men, who were endeavoring to provide humanitarian assistance to victims of Serbian aggression in Kosovo, were subsequently charged with espionage and are now being unjustly held as prisoners in Serbia.

The detention of these individuals strikes at the very heart of the ability of humanitarian and aid organizations such as CARE to operate in conflicts such as the one in Kosovo. It is noteworthy that the actual charges they were convicted of concerned only the passing of situation reports on the conditions in Kosovo to their headquarters in order for CARE to be able to determine the needs of the population it was attempting to assist and the conditions under which its employees were working in Kosovo.

For the Serb authorities to construe these actions as hostile makes a mockery of the terms of their agreement that permitted CARE to operate in Serbia in the first place. Indeed, one day prior to the detention of its employees, CARE had received a letter from the Yugoslav authorities commending its work. The continued imprisonment of these men is an affront to the principles of the entire international community, and a threat to the ability of international and private organizations to function under the difficult circumstance that they face in numerous countries around the globe.

We would be remiss if we did not also take note of another detention of an individual engaged on a humanitarian mission in North Korea. According to accounts in the press, Ms. Karen Hahn was detained some weeks ago and has been held incommunicado by the North Korean authorities. The welfare of Ms. Hahn is also in our minds as we consider this resolution.

H. Con. Res. 144 urges the United States and the United Nations to undertake urgent and strenuous efforts to secure the release from Serbia of the three imprisoned CARE Australia.

Accordingly, I ask all members of the House to join in signaling our demand for the release of these individuals, and restoration of our confidence that organizations such as CARE can continue to operate without harassment in the difficult and often dangerous environments they face throughout the world.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 144, which calls attention to the plight of three humanitarian workers unjustly imprisoned by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Branko Jelen, Steve Pratt and Peter Wallace were employed in Yugoslavia by CARE International, providing aid, food, and medicinal supplies to refugees in both Serbia and Kosovo. In that capacity, they did what CARE International does in all of its international humanitarian missions: provide other CARE offices in the area with progress reports. CARE International has always used these reports, because they are vital to the organization's first-hand knowledge of the progress, prospects, and dangers of their many missions. The reports are not secret and contain easily obtainable information.

After learning of these reports in late March, the government of Slobodan Milosevic detained Jelen, Pratt, and Wallace, and later accused them of engaging in espionage for the U.S. government. In a closed military court, they were found guilty of spying, and are currently serving sentences of up to 12 years in a Serbian jail.

Mr. Speaker, these three men are innocent. They were providing humanitarian aid to people who were in desperate need.

We are all familiar with CARE International and similar Non-Government Organizations, and the extraordinary humanitarian contributions they make in the fight to end despair and suffering. Today, this House must stand up for this mission. It is imperative that the U.S. lead the way in freeing these men and who are guilty of nothing more than being courageous humanitarians. I urge all of my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 144.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONCERNING UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLU- TION ES-10/6

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 117) concerning United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES-10/6, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

#### H. CON. RES. 117

Whereas in an Emergency Special Session, the United Nations General Assembly voted on February 9, 1999, to pass Resolution ES-10/6, *Illegal Israeli Actions In Occupied East Jerusalem And The Rest Of The Occupied Palestinian Territory*, to convene for the first time in 50 years the parties of the Fourth Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilians in Time of War;

Whereas such resolution singles out Israel for unprecedented enforcement proceedings, which have never been invoked, even against governments with records of massive violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention;

Whereas such resolution unfairly places full blame for the deterioration of the Middle

East Peace Process on Israel and dangerously politicizes the Fourth Geneva Convention, which was established to address humanitarian crises; and

Whereas such vote, initiated by the Arab Group at the behest of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), serves to prejudice and undercut direct negotiations, puts added and undue pressure on Israel to influence the results of those negotiations, and contravenes the written commitment that Yasser Arafat gave to then Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that issues of permanent status would only be dealt with directly by the parties: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) commends the Department of State for the vote of the United States against United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES-10/6 affirming that the text of such resolution politicizes the Fourth Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilians in Time of War which was primarily humanitarian in nature;

(2) urges the Department of State to continue its efforts against convening the conference, which is scheduled to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on July 15, 1999;

(3) urges the member states of the United Nations to vigorously oppose any and all efforts to manipulate the Fourth Geneva Convention for the purpose of attacking Israel; and

(4) urges United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan and Switzerland, which serves as the depository of the Fourth Geneva Convention, to refrain from assisting in the convening of the conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROTHMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SALMON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, first I would like to commend the efforts of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROTHMAN). He is the author of this piece of legislation. It is very timely and very needed, and he is always there in the pinch, and we appreciate him on this side.

Mr. Speaker, our consideration of this resolution is certainly timely as it concerns the convening, under extraordinary and almost unprecedented circumstances, of the parties of the Fourth Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilians in Times of War later this week in Geneva, Switzerland. The focus of this unusual meeting will be "Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Territory."