

"They were laughing after they shot. It was like they were having the time of their life."

The question is not why but, "What do we do?"

Like recovering alcoholics, we first have to admit that we—all of us—have a problem. Not just our neighbors, not just Paducah and now Littleton, not just big cities or rural towns.

The good folks who have to live in crime-ridden neighborhoods used to rally around the cry, "Take back our streets!" Now, it's time to take back our children. Even the most dysfunctional families have aunts, uncles and cousins who can help.

Churches, mosques, synagogues, libraries and numerous civic- and social-service networks offer havens that too few people see as important enough to spend their time and money on. Much easier to give the kids some money and drop them and their cell phones off at the mall.

"Finally I started figuring out these guys shot to kill for no reason. . . . When he looked at me, the guy's eyes were just dead."

We are killing our children by insisting that they don't have to be children if they don't want to. We talk values to them but fail, on the whole, to live those values. We lead by example, often unaware that our example is pathetically shallow and certainly poor competition for the pervasive voice of the youth culture where simply buying khakis holds the promise of sex.

Littleton is an affluent suburb. This is an affluent nation. We have time and money to spend on our children. Individually, we must ask how our money and time is being spent. Collectively, we must decide to spend it more wisely and to share it with the larger neighborhood, the grand nation of the United States of America and its most valuable asset, the youngsters who will someday be the neighborhood.

Most of all, we must teach our children that freedom and independence are earned and that the rites of passage amount to more than clipping on a pager.

Neglect and indifference are forms of child abuse. Before we are shocked again by the next school shooting, we should devote more than a moment of thought to how much we overlook deviance and alienation; how so many of us are so little involved in providing direction.

Parents and all adults must provide understanding and compassion, discipline and clarity in a world of neglect, obfuscation and self-absorption.●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER HENNESSEY

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute and say goodbye to a long time friend, Father Ron Hennessey, whose recent passing is a great loss not only to his colleagues, his family, and his friends but to everyone who knew him. I'm saying goodbye to Father Ron, but we will never say goodbye to his heart, his spirit, or his soul.

Father Ron was a native of Iowa and graduated from St. Patrick's High School in Ryan, Iowa. After graduating, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served as a mechanic and later a Motor Sergeant in Korea. While in Korea, he was awarded three Bronze Stars for valor during his military service. Under the Eisenhower Christmas Program, he returned to the United States and was released from

active service on December 9, 1953. He entered Maryknoll Junior Seminary in Pennsylvania and five years later graduated from Maryknoll College in Illinois in June of 1958. Father Hennessey was ordained at Maryknoll Seminary in New York on June 13, 1964.

Father Ron devoted his life to international peace and justice, Mr. President, dedicating almost 35 years of his life as a Maryknoll priest in Central America. Much of this time was spent in Guatemala and El Salvador. Soon after being ordained, he was assigned to the Diocese of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Several years later, he became the Pastor in San Mateo Ixtatan, Guatemala. It is during this time that Father Hennessey became very involved in the human rights struggle of the local Mayan Indians. He placed himself in great danger by smuggling letters out of Guatemala detailing the atrocities committed against the Mayan Indians in his rural parish. Those atrocities, Father Ron wrote, were being committed by the Guatemalan military under the orders of President Rios Montt. I remember one letter in particular in which Father Ron listed 20 instances in his parish alone in which military forces committed gross acts of violence.

Sadly, the United States Government at the time, supported this oppressive regime. In fact, our own State Department downplayed the human rights violations being committed in Guatemala, and in my view making us complicit in those heinous crimes.

By shining the spotlight on these atrocities, Father Ron's life was in constant danger. But that did not stop him. He stayed in Guatemala until 1986 despite having three opportunities to leave.

From Guatemala he went to El Salvador to re-establish a Maryknoll presence there after a five year absence. There he served in a parish on the outskirts of San Salvador that had had no priest since the Church was bombed in 1980.

In 1989, when the Salvadoran military murdered six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, Father Hennessey and his fellow Maryknollers chose to remain in the country even as scores of North American missionaries and aid workers decided to leave because the situation had become too dangerous for those who stood up for human rights and the rule of law. But Father Hennessey continued his work, standing side by side with his parishioners.

Father Hennessey once again took up residence again in Guatemala in 1992 until earlier this year when he was assigned to the Maryknoll mission in Los Angeles.

And so, Mr. President, Father Hennessey will be greatly missed by all of us. And while he may have physically departed, his spirit will never desert us.

Which is the second reason I rise today, Mr. President—to affirm an an-

cient native American saying: To live in the hearts of those you love, is not to die.

Father Ron, your spirit does live on through who knew you, whose lives you touched, and through them the countless thousands whose lives were enriched because of you. You will be remembered by us, each in a different way.

Finally, Mr. President, I can think of no better way to remember my friend Father Ron than with the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero: I have no ambition of power, and so with complete freedom I tell the powerful what is good and what is bad, and I tell any political group what is good and what is bad. That is my duty.●

ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

• Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, this is Arson Awareness Week in our nation. As Chairman of the Congressional Fire Service Caucus, I want to remind all Americans of the blight of arson that kills over 700 innocent victims each year and destroys millions of dollars of property. Additionally, firefighters who have been summoned to extinguish the blaze die needlessly.

Arson has many faces. The misguided youth that sets fires for excitement; criminals that use fire in an attempt to cover another crime; persons using fire as a weapon to intimidate; the property owner attempting to solve financial problems by defrauding an insurance company; or the terrorist who uses fire to attack our democracy.

No matter what the motive, arson in our society cannot be tolerated. Every level of our law enforcement community fights the war against arson. Local and state fire marshals are often assisted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in conducting investigations to bring the arsonist to justice.

The United States Fire Administration in FEMA and the Center for Fire Research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the Commerce Department are important federal partners in furthering research to learn how arson fires are started and how set fires can be detected. Our National Fire Academy provides training in arson investigation for many state and local law enforcement personnel.

But we should not assume that government alone can solve the arson problem. Private enterprise, especially the insurance industry has taken a much higher profile in attacking the arson problem by investigating claims and cooperating with law enforcement personnel. This trend must continue to take the profit out of arson. The insurance industry has also contributed to teaching the public about arson by sponsoring education programs such as Arson Awareness Week. The Fire Administration helps supports Arson Awareness Week by working with the International Association of Arson Investigators. This is the 50th Anniversary of the IAAI. Over seven thousand

members worldwide working together to control arson are making a difference.

I send my congratulations to the IAAI during Arson Awareness Week. I am particularly proud of the Delaware Chapter of the IAAI. Some of best that Delaware has to offer from the fire service, law enforcement, the insurance industry and the private sector work hard to protect and educate us about arson. As we go about our busy week, let us not forget that we must all work to snuff out the arsonist match.●

TRIBUTE TO A LEGENDARY PUBLIC OFFICIAL

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mayor Gerald A. Calabrese of Cliffside Park, New Jersey as he is honored for a lifetime of distinguished service to the citizens of his community, county, and state by the Temple Israel Community Center, celebrating its 75th anniversary.

Gerry began his career in public service by enlisting in the Navy and serving his country during World War II. After returning to the United States, Gerry turned his focus to education and entered St. John's University where he was chosen as an All-American for basketball. Upon graduation, he continued playing basketball in the National Basketball Association for the Syracuse Nationals.

Gerry retired from his sports career and was quick to enter into public service as he was elected to the Cliffside Park Borough Council in 1955. In 1959, Gerry was elected to his first term as the mayor of Cliffside Park, a post he has retained for the past forty years. During his tenure, Gerry has been always ready and willing to meet with his constituents and listen to their concerns. He has raised the bar in constituent services, as he has always been ready and willing to help those in need. Continuing in this vein, Gerry served on the Bergen County Board of Freeholders from 1975 to 1985, as Bergen County Democratic Chairman from 1991 to 1998, the New Jersey Delegation to the National Democratic Convention in 1988 and 1992, on the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities from 1960 to 1987, and on the 1992 New Jersey Congressional Re-Districting Committee.

Gerry Calabrese is respected by all in and around his community and his activities extend beyond his public service career. He is a life member of the PBA Local 96, N.J. State Association of Chiefs of Police, Cliffside Park Little League, Polish American Democratic Club, Hackensack Unico and Cliffside Park B'nai B'rith named him "Man of the Year."

Mayor Calabrese is a legendary public servant in New Jersey and is most deserving of this distinguished honor. I am proud to recognize Gerry and his many years of distinguished service.●

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC SCHOOL

• Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the fifth grade class at Christ the King Catholic School in Wichita, Kansas. On May 6, 1999, these students will attend the Drug Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program's graduation ceremony.

These students, under the guidance of Officer John Crane and their teacher Ms. Sylvia Eckberg, completed the D.A.R.E. program's 17 week course. At a time when our students are bombarded daily with temptations and harmful messages, it is refreshing to know that there are many students willing to serve as role models for others by leading drug free lives.

Unfortunately, there are many young people in our country addicted to illegal drugs. Programs such as the Safe and Drug Free School program and D.A.R.E. help to encourage students to stay off drugs. However, this is not enough. In order to win the battle over illegal drug use, it will take courageous students, such as this fifth grade class, to make the commitment to live drug free lives despite pressure from other individuals.

Therefore, I am proud to recognize the students of Ms. Eckberg's class at Christ the King Catholic School for their commitment to living drug free and serving as role models for young people in Kansas and throughout the nation.●

TRIBUTE TO PLAINFIELD, CT ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, nestled in what is known as the "Quiet Corner" of northeastern Connecticut along the banks of the Quinebaug River lies the town of Plainfield. This year marks Plainfield's 300th anniversary and as its residents celebrate their history, it is important to reflect upon the invaluable contributions of those, past and present, who have made Plainfield a unique Connecticut town.

The first citizens of Plainfield were, much like the original colonists of New England, ingenious and resourceful. Settling in a land that was full of unknowns, these men and women were intent on providing a better life for themselves and future generations. The Plainfield of today is a testament to their strength and perseverance.

In May of 1699, some thirty families petitioned Governor Jonathan Winthrop to incorporate the disputed Quinebaug Plantation, which included land on both sides of the Quinebaug River, into the town of Plainfield. Eventually, in 1703, colonists living on the western banks of the river separated to settle what is now the town of Canterbury.

The construction of roads during the 1700's from Providence to Norwich which ran through Plainfield made the town an important trading post of surplus crops. Antiquated by today's

standards, the simple roads that connected Plainfield with other New England towns earned it the reputation as a vital crossroads throughout the region.

With Plainfield Junction serving as a stop on the Norwich to Worcester railroad, Plainfield's residents were exposed to travelers from abroad and bore witness to the impending technological boom of the next century. By the end of the 18th century, the town could credit its first village center and meetinghouse, shops, and taverns to the increased number of families choosing to make Plainfield their home.

The advent of the textile industry during the 19th century brought about significant changes for this town, forever changing the face of Plainfield and redefining the lives of its residents. With activity centered on the Moosup River, the cotton and woolen mills transformed Plainfield from a predominantly farming society to an industrial hub.

The introduction of industry into the community altered and enhanced the ethnic character of Plainfield. French-Canadians seeking temporary refuge and employment in Plainfield's mills ultimately made the bustling town their home, successfully contributing to the town's growth as shopkeepers and professionals. French-Canadians helped to define Plainfield's identity and their heritage is still very much alive in its townspeople today.

Despite its many transformations over the last 300 years, Plainfield has always remained a town that is distinctly New England in its character. Many of the mills are now gone, yet, much of Plainfield's historical landscape still survives. In 1994, Plainfield, together with 24 other northeastern Connecticut towns, was designated as the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor. This is an exceptional achievement that recognizes Plainfield's success in encouraging new economic development while preserving its rich history.

As we move toward the new millennium, the residents of Plainfield return to their past not only for the lessons that it holds but also to celebrate the people and events that have made them who they are today. Much is made of our history as a country, yet many of us overlook the important examples set by those in our own backyards. We all should seek within our own communities to embrace the past and recognize the significance of local heritage in shaping the modern character of our own families and towns. On behalf of myself, and the entire State of Connecticut, I offer Plainfield a very hearty happy birthday and my best wishes for another successful 100 years.●

HONORING FORMER SENATOR R. VANCE HARTKE

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I am pleased to submit for the Record a