

However, the German courts have supported his mother's efforts to keep him from his father and have provided no visitation and have provided no timely ruling on Hague petitions. When George last traveled to Munich in February, a German judge would not order visitation or even tell him where his son was hidden. The lower German court rulings that grant David's mother German custody move through the German appeals court next week, and I am hopeful that George's son will soon be returned to him.

Dr. Uhl and parents like him need our help. Mr. Speaker, we must show respect and concern for the most sacred of bonds, the bond of a parent and a child. When we look at a globe and we see boundaries, but when it comes to uniting families, we must know no boundaries. We must bring our children home.

#### WORKING SENIORS DESERVE A BREAK

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that working seniors deserve a break, and it is time we gave it to them.

I think most of us in this chamber agree that our Tax Code needs to be fairer. And in order for the Tax Code to be fairer, we must first eliminate the many ways that it unfairly punishes the American people.

Our House took a first step on this front just a few weeks ago when we passed a bill that would give married couples relief from the marriage tax penalty. But just as it is unfair for couples to be penalized simply for being married, it is equally unfair for senior citizens to be penalized simply because they have jobs. Yet the Social Security earnings limits is doing just that.

Because of these earnings limits, senior citizens risk losing a large portion of their Social Security benefits if they decide to keep working past the age of 65 and they make more than the law allows. In essence, our government is telling senior citizens that they should not work. Instead, our government should encourage not discourage.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to eliminate the Social Security earnings limit.

#### GUN SAFETY

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

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, another tragedy has struck. Yesterday, a little girl in Michigan was shot and killed by one of her classmates, a 6-year-old boy. A 6 year old, Mr. Speaker. And the question we are all asking ourselves today is, "How in the heck did a little 6-year-old boy get a gun?"

If anybody watched the footage of this on the news last night, they saw a scene that has become all too familiar in this country: A school being evacuated, teachers leading frightened children to safety, sobbing parents frantically looking for their children and, at the end of the day, another dead child, another victim of gun violence.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, another tragedy has struck, but still Congress does nothing to keep guns out of the hands of kids and out of the hands of criminals. This is not the year 1900, this is the year 2000. We have a crisis in this country and Congress is going to go home again today, not to come back until next week, still having done nothing to pass common sense child gun safety.

#### REPEAL SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS LIMIT

(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, if a senior citizen wishes to be a part of the work force, there is a lot to consider: The work environment, the hours, the wages. There are a lot of things for a working senior to look at. But one that should not have to occupy a senior citizen's mind is the potential impact that their new job could have on their Social Security benefits.

Yet working seniors across the country have to do that because of the Social Security earnings limit. Because of the earnings limit, senior citizens between the ages of 65 and 70 who join the work force risk losing part or all of their Social Security benefits. This is simply not fair.

Senior citizens have spent their entire lives earning these benefits and our government should not be punishing them simply because they choose to keep on working.

Today, House Republicans bring up a bill that will repeal the earnings limit. Many senior groups, including the AARP, support this bill because they recognize that it is unfair to punish working seniors. I hope that my colleagues will agree.

Let us repeal the Social Security earning limits and give our working seniors a break. They have earned it.

#### WHITE HOUSE IS WRONG ON CHINA AND WTO MEMBERSHIP

(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 White House wants China in the World Trade Organization. Unbelievable. China sells nuclear weapons to our enemies. China threatened to nuke Taiwan. Once, China even threatened the city of Los Angeles.

Beam me up. If the White House succeeds in getting China admitted to the

World Trade Organization, I say the White House needs a lobotomy performed by a proctologist.

I yield back a \$350 billion trade deficit, much of it going to China to finance an army that someday may come after us.

#### SANCTIONS ON IRAQ: A REGRETTABLE NECESSITY

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks a number of well-meaning but misguided voices have been raised to urge the lifting of economic sanctions against Saddam Hussein's government in Iraq. It has been suggested that lifting the sanctions will alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Iraq does face a humanitarian disaster, but it is a disaster that has been created and perpetuated by Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi leader bemoans the lack of food and medicine, but Saddam has amassed a personal fortune of over \$6 billion, much of it the result of pilfering the donations the international community has provided. While his people have gone wanting, he has built scores of palatial mansions at an estimated cost of \$2 billion.

Recent studies from the Food and Agriculture Organization indicate that more than enough food is available to satisfy the minimal caloric requirements to sustain health. The problem is that Saddam is preventing adequate food and medicine from reaching those groups and regions that most actively oppose him.

Mr. Speaker, Saddam Hussein remains a lethal adversary who has repeatedly sought to circumvent international sanctions and has tried to divert humanitarian aid into military strategic programs. While it is entirely appropriate for the American people to care about the pain inflicted upon the people of Iraq, lifting the sanctions will not alleviate the suffering. We must not be naive, sanctions must remain in force.

#### DENIAL OF JUSTICE

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the denial of justice is one of the most egregious fronts to all of democracy, and I can tell all my colleagues that the verdict in the Amadou Diallo police case puts justice on trial.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my voice with that of countless others who are crying out for justice not just for Amadou Diallo but for justice to roll throughout America like a mighty stream. For as long as there is no justice, there can be no peace. The denial of justice for one is a threat to justice for all. No justice, no peace.

This case is troublesome, Mr. Speaker, because it reinforces for many people in this country the feeling that there is a dual system of justice which further divides the Nation. And we know that a Nation, like a house, divided cannot stand.

So I say let us stand together for justice. No justice, no peace.

#### ANOTHER CHILD LOST TO GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this morning I rise with a heavy heart. Yesterday, another child, another baby, lost her life to gun violence. This sad day, this great tragedy is made worse by the fact that this little girl was killed by another child.

How long will we tolerate gun violence? How long will we tolerate children killing children? Mr. Speaker, how long will it take for this House to demonstrate raw courage and pass real gun control legislation.

This morning, as we take a moment to consider our failure and to grieve this family's loss, we must not forget to take the time out to teach our children the way of peace, the way of non-violence, to teach them the way of love.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS LIMIT PUNISHES SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about Meredith T. Jones. She is one of 48,000 Georgians who has found out that being 65 is not as old as she thought it was. She has great health, she has great energy and enthusiasm, particularly with the kids out of the house. So she wants to go to work.

Miss Jones gets a job, feeling good about it, and then comes the IRS. And she has found, like so many other senior citizens, that because she is over 65 that she will lose \$1 in Social Security benefits for every \$3 she earns.

Yet, if she works, she is healthier, she is happier, she is more independent. But the IRS does not recognize that and wants to penalize Miss Jones and 48,000 other Georgia seniors because they are working.

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The Social Security earnings limitation is unfair. It hurts seniors. Republicans have a plan to restore fairness and provide relief for seniors so that they can earn a good living and enjoy productive retirement years without being penalized by the IRS. Mr. Speaker, we need to pass the Social Security earnings limitation.

#### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

(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, in just 25 years the number of seniors in California will nearly double, from 3.4 million to 6.4 million, but the limited prescription drug benefit that the Republicans have proposed would leave nearly half of those seniors behind.

Low-income drug benefit plans include seniors who are considered middle class if they earn between \$15,000 and \$50,000 a year. These plans ignore the fact that due to the high costs of prescription drugs, many seniors must choose between buying food and buying medicine. That is not right.

Mr. Speaker, in the case of Ivera and Roy Cobb, residents of my district, paying for medications that they both need is absolutely impossible. Roy goes without some of his prescription drugs so that Ivera can have her medications.

The Republican leadership must stop dragging its feet and must enact a meaningful prescription drug benefit that will eliminate price discrimination against our seniors.

#### OUTRAGE OVER THE SHOOTING AND VERDICT IN THE CASE OF AMADOU DIALLO

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage over the shooting and subsequent verdict in the case of Amadou Diallo, Mr. Diallo, an innocent young African immigrant who came to the United States aspiring for a better life. Plainclothes officers who belong to an overaggressive street crime unit were supposed to be looking for an armed rapist.

Mr. Speaker, was that rapist Amadou Diallo? No. He was simply a black man going home after a long day's work. The officers approached Amadou, and what happened is not completely clear. But in the end, the unarmed young man's body lay in front of his vestibule caught in a hailstorm of 41 bullets.

The reason, the police said, they thought that a wallet was a gun; although he was left-handed, and the wallet was not anywhere near the left hand. A senseless death. But what is even more disturbing was the jury's verdict, which acquitted all the officers of all charges, ranging from second-degree murder to negligent homicide.

Mr. Speaker, let me say we must call upon the Justice Department to investigate this case so that the deepening fear between minorities and the police who are supposed to protect them will end.

#### CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK ACT

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on the floor today we will be considering the Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act. It allows seniors to work, continue to work without affecting their Social Security.

It seems hard to believe that our tax law would actually punish people for working. I am pleased that my colleagues on the Republican side after 6 years have finally decided to help seniors who want to continue working. This is the first we have had a clean vote on this issue.

These are the very same seniors, the ones who cannot afford their medication or their prescription because our Medicare system does not cover it. I am glad that we are actually going to let them now work and earn that money so they can pay for their prescriptions, because this Congress has not passed a bill on that.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that approximately 45 percent of seniors have no prescription benefit. These are the seniors who choose every month between buying food, paying their bills, or buying their medication. Some have to buy their medication but skip days just to make it longer.

I am disappointed that this Congress has not moved aggressively on prescription medication for seniors. But at least by passing this bill, we will let them continue to work so they can afford their medication.

#### FEDERAL INTERVENTION REGARDING THE CASE OF AMADOU DIALLO

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as crime has increased, police have been given freer and freer rein. It is time to reign them in. That is the lesson of the New York City Diallo case. It is difficult to fault a racially integrated jury, but they have written only the first chapter. There are at least three more chapters to be written before we know who is at fault.

Mr. Speaker, Chapter Number 2 must be written by the Justice Department. This is a classic case for Federal intervention, a horrendous police response resulting in the death of an innocent resident.

There are, of course, no appeals in the criminal process. This case calls for a rapid response from the Justice Department. A civil rights investigation, as provided by law, is a vital check in a Federal system.

Chapter 3 in this case must be written with a civil court suit. Even if a police attack is deemed not criminal, no civil society would condone such a response.

Finally, there is a fourth chapter; and we must write that chapter. It should be entitled "Do not send poorly