

to Monitor and Combat Trafficking; provides assistance to foreign countries for programs and activities to meet the minimum international standards for the elimination of trafficking; withholds U.S. non-humanitarian assistance to countries that do not meet minimum standards against trafficking and are not making efforts to meet minimum standards, unless continued assistance is deemed to be in the U.S. national interest; and increases penalties for those engaged in sex trafficking.

In addition, the fiscal year 2001 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act earmarked at least \$1.35 million for the Protection Project to study international trafficking, prostitution, slavery, debt bondage, and other abuses of women and children.

These are significant steps, but much work needs to be done. We must enforce the laws we have passed and we must consider new laws to protect victims and bring traffickers to justice. On International Women's Day, I urge my colleagues to continue the fight against the sexual trafficking of women and girls.

Rape as an instrument of war is an issue which, in recent years, has been of increasing concern to me.

Rape is no longer an isolated by-product of war; it is increasingly a tool to advance war aims. In recent years in Bosnia, Rwanda, and East Timor soldiers and militiamen used rape on an organized, systematic, and sustained basis to further their goal of ethnic cleansing. In some cases, women were kidnaped, interned in camps and houses, forced to do labor, and subjected frequent rape and sexual assault.

I was pleased that the United Nations, in setting up the war crime tribunals for the Balkans and Rwanda, recognized rape as a war crime and a crime against humanity.

Nevertheless, I was very disappointed by the repeated failure of the international community, especially in the former Yugoslavia, to see that those who were indicted for perpetrating these crimes were brought to justice. It appeared that the major step forward taken by the creation of the tribunals would be nullified by inaction.

Finally, on February 22, 2001, the international tribunal in The Hague sentenced three Bosnian Serbs to prison for rape during the Bosnian war. I was very pleased the court took this step. Clearly, there is still much work to be done. Estimates are that up to 20,000 women in Yugoslavia were systematically raped as part of a policy of ethnic cleansing and genocide. Many perpetrators still remain at large.

Nevertheless, the court has stated loud and clear that those who use rape as an instrument of war will no longer be able to escape justice. They will be arrested, tried, and convicted. As Judge Florence Mumba of Zambia stated, "Lawless opportunists should expect no mercy, no matter how low their position in the chain of command may be."

I commend the victims who courageously came forward to confront their attackers and offer testimony that helped lead to the convictions. The international community, and women in particular, owe them a debt of gratitude.

On International Women's Day, I urge the Administration and the international community to join me in continuing the fight to end the practice of rape as an instrument of war, and to pursue justice for its victims.

Perhaps nowhere in the world today is there a clearer test of our commitment of the cause of women's rights than Afghanistan.

To put it simply, I am shocked and dismayed at the treatment of women in Afghanistan by the Taliban. Afghan women have been banned from work and school and are largely confined in their homes behind darkened windows. They are required to wear full-length veils, or burka, when in public and must be accompanied by a male member of the family. In addition, access to medical services has been dramatically reduced. Widows are not allowed to work and must beg to subsist.

The women of Afghanistan, who have seen their families destroyed by war, are now having their economic life and their fundamental human rights stripped away, and the violations of Afghan women's basic human rights have pushed an already war-torn and war-weary Afghanistan to the brink of disaster.

The suffering of Afghan women and girls must not be ignored by the United States and the international community. I am working on legislation with Senator BOXER to address their plight and put pressure on the Taliban to respect basic human rights.

On International Women's Day, the United States, with our history of commitment to women's rights and equality, must redouble its efforts to place respect for women's rights at the top of the international community's agenda regarding Afghanistan.

We must debate and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. We must rededicate ourselves and our resources to international family planning programs. We must enforce tough anti-trafficking legislation. We must not ignore the gross violations of the human rights of Afghan women.

We cannot afford to remain silent. We cannot afford to place women's rights on a second tier of concern of U.S. foreign policy. On International Women's Day, the United States and the international community must take a strong stand and issue a clear warning to those who attempt to rob women of basic rights that the world's governments will no longer ignore these abuses, or allow them to continue without repercussion.

PRAYER AT THE HOUSE THE SENATE BUILT PROGRAM

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, this morning, Members of the U.S. Senate came together to kick off the House the Senate Built Program with Habitat for Humanity International. Today's event partnered Members of the Senate with HUD Secretary Mel Martinez, Habitat founder Millard Fuller, and a host of building partners to begin work with the Spencer and Williams families on their new homes in Capitol Heights, MD.

Before the event began, Ms. Helena Spencer, mother of one of the two families who will be moving into the homes upon completion, shared with us her frustrations of living in substandard housing and her plea to God to help her find a new home for her family. Her message to us was that Habitat for Humanity was an answer to prayer. I want to share her prayer with you today, because I feel it reflects well on the work of Habitat for Humanity.

Ms. Spencer prayed:

Lord, my future looks so uncertain. It seems as if everything dear to me has been shaken or removed. He answered me, and said in His word, I will remove what can be shaken so that those things which "cannot be shaken may remain" (Hebrews 12:27). My life has to be built upon an unshakable foundation. He says I'm removing from you all insecure foundation to force you to rest on the foundation of me alone. A spiritual house, in order to stand, must not be built on a flimsy foundation. Your false resting place is being shaken so that you will rely wholly on me.

With these words, Helena Spencer spoke volumes about how great a blessing Habitat for Humanity is to so many people in need. These words inspired us this morning as we worked side by side building the houses that the Spencer and Williams families will call home. These words have motivated us to see through the House the Senate Built Project to its stated end; at least one new Habitat home built by Members of the U.S. Senate in each of our home States.

I am thankful for the work of Habitat for Humanity in this country and am encouraged by the faith and hope displayed today by Ms. Helena Spencer.

RECENT SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, earlier this week, the community of Santee, CA was struck by a horrible tragedy when a student opened fire on his classmates at Santana High School. Two people were killed and 13 others were wounded in the worst episode of school violence since the mass shooting in Littleton, CO almost 2 years ago. Although students returned to school yesterday, the grief over losing two of their classmates and the memories of what occurred will stay with them forever. My thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families and the people of Santee, CA as they attempt to cope with this tragedy.

In an interview on Monday night, Dr. Michael Sise, the Medical Director for Trauma at Mercy Hospital, where three of the victims were treated, offered his perspective on shooting. He said, "We wouldn't be here tonight talking to you if this kid, this troubled kid, hadn't had access to a firearm. I think we have to start asking the tough questions about firearms, what they mean. Firearms turn shouting matches into shooting matches, if those two kids in Columbine had not had access to firearms they would be two weird kids still wandering around campus, instead of dead along with a lot of dead classmates. So, for us in trauma we want to get out in the community and ask our fellow members of the community the tough questions. How do we prevent this from happening again?"

The question raised by Dr. Sise is the same question that is being asked by people in Santee, CA and all over the country. After each of these shootings, we ask ourselves how we can prevent other such tragedies from happening in the future. One way to prevent this level of violence from occurring again is to make it harder for young people to gain access to firearms. By keeping guns out of the hands of children, we can help ensure that this type of deadly violence is not part of another child's school day.

Since the tragedy at Santana High School just a few days ago, our Nation has experienced other acts of school violence. On Tuesday, not far from the Capitol, a 14-year-old allegedly shot another teenager at a Prince George's County high school. Yesterday, it was reported that an eighth-grader in Williamsport, PA shot and wounded one of her classmates, and a high school junior in Seattle, WA threatened his class with a handgun. The shooting at Santana High School was not an isolated incident and these other acts of violence should not be written off as "copycat" incidents. These acts of violence will continue to plague our Nation until we limit the access that young people have to guns.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MATINA SARBANES

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Mrs. Matina Sarbanes, the mother of our dear colleague, Senator PAUL SARBANES.

Mrs. Sarbanes personified the American dream. She came to this country from Greece in 1930 to build a better life. She and her husband, the late Spyros Sarbanes, settled in Salisbury on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Mrs. Sarbanes used America's unique opportunity structure to build a business and a better life for their children. She and her husband opened the Mayflower Grill, a restaurant known for its good food and warm atmosphere. While the restaurant eventually closed in 1960, 3 years after the death of Mr. Sarbanes, people still share stories about their

meals and conversations with the Sarbanes family at the Mayflower Grill.

The restaurant was truly a family-owned and operated business. The children grew up waiting tables and washing dishes, developing a strong work ethic and value of service. Although important, Mrs. Sarbanes knew that hard work was not enough to ensure a better life in America for her children. Having never finished school herself, Mrs. Sarbanes taught her children the value of a good education. She knew that in America, as in few other places in the world, children of immigrants could go anywhere that hard work and education would take them.

She instilled in her children the values they needed to succeed: faith, family and patriotism. Her children put these values into action. Her oldest son attended one of the country's top colleges, became a Rhodes Scholar, and serves in one of our Nation's highest elected offices. Her son Anthony had a long distinguished career in education and in the military. Her daughter Zoe was a community leader and business woman in New Jersey.

Mrs. Sarbanes was a patriotic woman with a deep love for this country and for her Eastern Shore community. She was appreciative of America and all the opportunities it afforded her. And while she reaped the benefits of her life in America, she also knew the importance of giving back to her community. Mrs. Sarbanes passed this patriotism and love for her community on to her children. To learn all she could about the United States, it was not unusual for CNN to be on her television or for politics to be the topic of conversation at the Sarbanes' home.

While Mrs. Sarbanes was proud to be an American citizen, she never forgot her Greek heritage. She was active in the Greek community in Delmarva and helped found the St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Ocean City, which continues to thrive. While America provided her with opportunity, Greece provided her with a unique perspective on life and appreciation for all she and her family had accomplished. Mrs. Sarbanes lived to see each of her children and grandchildren finish college and grow up to be success stories in their own right.

We know how proud Mrs. Sarbanes was of her family, and she must know how proud her family was of her. She lived a wonderful life in America and touched many people including her church community, her Greek community, her patrons from the restaurant, and her countless friends. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Her family and many friends are in my thoughts and prayers.

I ask unanimous consent that an editorial on Mrs. Sarbanes from the Daily Times in Salisbury be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Salisbury Daily Times, Feb. 24, 2001]

THE DREAM EPITOMIZED

Matina Sarbanes epitomized the American success story. Through fortitude and hard work, she was able to live out the American dream. Born in the village of Elika in southern Greece, Sarbanes was attracted to the United States and its promise of opportunity. She joined family in New Jersey in 1930 and married Spyros Sarbanes in 1932.

The couple moved to Salisbury soon after and opened the famous Mayflower Grill on Main Street. While forging a life here, the Sarbanes family set an example for all to follow. They raised three solid children—two boys and a girl. They were an immigrant family who knew the meaning of hard work. In their children they instilled the value of service and a work ethic that was obvious to all. The Sarbanes children grew up waiting tables, washing dishes and mopping floors in the restaurant. Through the family business, they learned the value of education and developed an understanding of people.

At the center of all this effort and educating was Matina Sarbanes. She was a strong believer in education, though she never finished school. Her eldest son, Paul, is perhaps Salisbury's most distinguished native. He graduated from Wicomico High School and went on to be a Rhodes Scholar and graduated from Princeton University. Today he sits as a member of the U.S. Senate—a seat he has held with quiet distinction since 1976. Her son Anthony has remained in Salisbury, where he is a valuable community leader; daughter Zoe has found success in New Jersey.

Spyros Sarbanes, 16 years older than his wife, died in 1957. Mrs. Sarbanes continued on her own for three years, but shut down the Mayflower Grill in 1960. When Mrs. Sarbanes died Wednesday at age 92, a little bit of the old Salisbury passed with her. But her spirit, just like the spirit of others in her time who overcame real obstacles to make a life and build a family in this country, only grows stronger when we pause to reflect.

FEMA'S PROJECT IMPACT II

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to again address the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, Project Impact Program. The President's fiscal year 2002 budget proposal stated that the Project Impact disaster preparedness campaign "has not proven effective." I am looking into the issue of effectiveness.

A White House spokesperson, recently citing a FEMA Inspector General report, said that 64 percent of the money awarded by Project Impact had not been spent by communities 2 years after receiving it. This statement is a bit misleading. True, nearly 2 years after they were designated as Project Impact partners, seven pilot communities had not spent 64 percent of their grant funds. But the report also goes into detail as to why this was the situation. In many cases, while FEMA funds came quickly, communities needed additional time to mobilize and begin their mitigation programs. These communities were not fully prepared, administratively or programmatically, to accept the grants. Some communities had identified and scheduled multiple mitigation projects, only to realize later that they did not have the