

public support is indispensable. But this does not mean that volunteer efforts of the sort that Dr. Fradkin encourages are irrelevant or insignificant. We need both.

Mr. Speaker, as an indication of the continued importance of Dr. Fradkin's work in helping gather funds to provide higher education to people who would otherwise be unable to afford it, I ask that the following documents be printed here. They include a Proclamation from the North Dakota Dollars for Scholars Governing Board, and several letters from young people who have been the beneficiaries of the scholarships generated by Dr. Fradkin's work.

PROCLAMATION TO HONOR DR. IRVING FRADKIN
ISSUED THIS FOURTH DAY OF JUNE, 2003, BY THE
NORTH DAKOTA DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS GOV-
ERNING BOARD

Whereas, North Dakota citizens value education and are supportive of young people pursuing postsecondary education plans; and

Whereas, North Dakota Dollars for Scholars has grown to having 69 chapters impacting 129 communities at the close of FY 03; and

Whereas, North Dakota has Initiated a state level organization, led by a voluntary group of state Governing Board members, to continue its rich history of scholarship support for postsecondary education; and

Whereas, all chapters in North Dakota to date have raised \$9.4 million for local awards and endowment building; and

Whereas, all chapters in North Dakota to date have awarded scholarships to 8,454 students why also receive a key message of encouragement and pride from their community in addition to the monetary award; and

Whereas, all programs of Scholarship America helped to bring over \$965,000 to North Dakota postsecondary education institutions, and

Whereas, the Dollars for Scholars program would not have been possible without the determination and vision of one man named Irving Fradkin;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved By The North Dakota Dollars for Scholars Governing Board:

That our deep gratitude is extended to Irving Fradkin for making Dollars for Scholars possible in North Dakota and around the United States; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the North Dakota Dollars for Scholars Governing Board presents this resolution and plaque to Dr. Irving Fradkin to honor all he has done and accomplished for youth and education in America.

CHARLES STROUP,

Hazen, ND, NDDFS Governing Board Chair.

JULY 26, 2003.

HOW THE AMERICAN DREAM CHALLENGE
AFFECTED ME

As a child I did not think about my future very much. Therefore, I was not very enthused when our teacher told us that we would be writing an essay to compete for a scholarship. I remember thinking that it was pointless considering I did not even know what a scholarship was until that very moment. I was in the fourth grade and the only thing I cared about was getting through the fifth grade to make it to middle school.

My attitude changed when I won the award. I was very proud of myself. I had earned the scholarship and now I looked forward to the day I could put it to use. I don't think that the essay process itself made me feel that way. Winning is what made me realize that college was a possibility. Ever since then, I have tried my best to do well in all my academics.

It has been eight years and some of my achievements include membership in the National Honors Society and being awarded a thousand dollar scholarship. I was accepted to Stone Hill College and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. The American Dream Challenge is an excellent program that should be supported for the good it brings to our community. The youth is our future and the supporters of this program realize that and how important it is to influence children to strive for success.

NELIA LIMA.

DEAR DR. FRADKIN: I am a winner the American Dream Challenge and a Dollars for Scholars Scholarship. I would like to thank you and your colleagues for helping make my transition to college easier. Winning these scholarships made paying for college easier and I cannot thank you enough. There is so much going on when beginning college and these scholarships relieved some of the stress. Your commitment to the youth is unbelievable. I say this because I have experienced your commitment first hand. The belief you and your colleagues have in today's youth gives us a little more confidence and determination to achieve our goals so one day we can help tomorrow's youth. Once again, I would like to thank you for helping me on my path into the future and that what you have done for me and so many others is greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten

Sincerely,

BRYAN S. DE SA.

C.V. CARROLL SCHOOL,
Fall River, MA.

THE AMERICAN DREAM CHALLENGE:
A BLUEPRINT

The American Dream Challenge Program Committee is a dynamic, dedicated group of individuals who are working for a common goal, and unified goals. Their exceptional talents, dedication, and commitment are certainly felt within our educational system in our community.

What a Herculean task this is! The American Dream Challenge Group volunteers countless hours so that positive attitudes, ethics, and enthusiasm can regenerate in this depressed area and can begin with our youngest elementary students.

The concept of encouraging our students to do their very best, take charge of their lives, and stay in school is emphasized so magnificently by the Committee. The American Dream Challenge Group awards scholarships to elementary school children who are urged to put forth their best effort and make a difference in their school, their neighborhood and eventually give to their community.

With the American Dream Challenge we can feel the necessity for our students to strive for decency, and get back to basics of their lives.

Today we need more programs like the American Dream challenge with interested, concerned citizens volunteering with our youth and building better citizens and adults for tomorrow.

Thank you Dr. Fradkin and the American Dream Challenge Committee for including me and my students in a worthwhile endeavor.

Congratulations American Dream Challenge Committee and Dr. Irving Fradkin on a mammoth undertaking and a commendable start. The principal at C.V. Carroll school, Hr. Edward Campion, pledges his support for this program and encourages his staff to participate and pledge for future years.

BETSY COREY,
4th Grade Teacher.

NOVEMBER 10, 2002.

O. AMARELO,
*American Dream Challenge,
Fall River, MA.*

DEAR MR. AMARELO AND THE REST OF THE AMERICAN DREAM CHALLENGE CHAIRPERSONS: As a member of the first recipients of the American Dream Challenge scholarship award, I would just like to give you an update on my status in my first year of college, as you asked for us to keep you updated at the award ceremony earlier this year. I am a student at Boston University and I am currently pursuing a major in psychology, and eventually, a pre-law concentration. I have just more than a month left of my first semester and it has been wonderful. The college courses and professors have given me new challenges to keep me going in pursuit of my education, in pursuit of the American dream of success and prosperity. College life has been amazing with a whole new atmosphere and communal life and with many new experiences that I know will make great memories. I would just like to thank you again for the scholarship that you gave me. It helped me to buy the books and supplies that I needed for college, in addition to serving as a motivation for me to have this great opportunity of attending a place of higher learning. Without your scholarship, I still would have made it because of my determination to achieve my dream, but it would have been harder. Thank you once again and I hope that you continue to make students' college hopes and dreams to come true, as you did mine.

Sincerely,

ALEXANDER PAIVA.

ENDING PARTIAL BIRTH
ABORTION

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003 and to commend the Congress and the President for outlawing the gruesome procedure known as partial-birth abortion.

I do not refer to it as "so-called" partial-birth abortion like some do, because the term is perfectly accurate. An infant is partially delivered—often with the entire body outside of the womb except the head—then a pair of long, sharp scissors is forced through the back of the infant's skull and the doctor sucks the child's brains out before completing delivery of the now dead infant.

The child is just moments away from birth—just a few inches from being delivered, from being completely out of the womb and breathing fresh air. It is one the most horrific, gruesome procedures I can imagine, one performed without anesthetic on an otherwise healthy infant that is alive during the process.

In America today, in our infinite wisdom, we have decided that it is "cruel and unusual punishment" to sentence a prisoner convicted of murder to death by electrocution, but we freely allow abortion doctors to jam a pair of scissors through the skull of a healthy baby who is a tug away from birth, often 20 to 32 weeks in gestation and sometimes at fullterm!

I have often said that in order to reduce the number of abortions in this country each year we must change the hearts and minds of the

people, not just the laws. Sad and unfortunate as every abortion is, I am particularly grieved by each child that dies from a partial-birth abortion.

Should we not ban a procedure so violent and so repulsive that even many abortion doctors shun, that over 70% of Americans are against, and at least 27 States have already outlawed?

Mr. Speaker, this is a procedure that countless doctors and medical professionals have deemed unnecessary to preserve the health or life of the mother. Partial birth abortion is never medically necessary, yet we have been trying since 1995 to pass a ban on this procedure that a president with courage and wisdom will sign.

As the bill's language states and medical authorities have attested to, partial-birth abortion poses serious risks to the health of a woman undergoing the procedure and there is no credible medical evidence that partial-birth abortions are safe or safer than other abortion procedures.

Hippocrates, the father of medicine and originator of the Hippocratic Oath, charged to fellow physicians of his day: First of all, do no harm. Certainly all sane and rational people can agree that this procedure is anything but harmless, and I would venture to say quite ruthless to both the mother and child.

While there are various versions of the Hippocratic Oath in use today, all speak of the physician's obligation to improve the health of all patients regardless of station. At a moment in time like this when that solemn Oath is not being honored, it is up to Congress and the American people to step in and enforce it with decent and reasonable laws.

That is what the partial-birth abortion ban is: a decent and reasonable law in response to an indecent act.

I am pro-life. I believe in the sanctity of life and in my heart and mind believe that life begins at conception. I do not believe that protecting the lives of the unborn and the rights of women are mutually exclusive ideas.

But that is not what this legislation is about. This is not—and should not be—a debate of pro-life verses pro-choice. This is a prudent and reasonable bill that we should all be able to agree is necessary and important. While this legislation is now law, the fact remains that abortion is still legal in the United States. What this legislation does is ban the single most violent and gruesome abortion procedure: partial-birth abortion.

Because it is unnecessary, because it is harmful to all parties involved, and because it is immoral.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this vital legislation, and I am thankful to have witnessed the day—after so many years of trying—when this Congress, our President and the American people had the decency and resolve to see partial-birth abortion outlawed in this great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO CONSOLIDATED WOOD PRODUCTS

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Consolidated Wood Products of Beverly, West Virginia for being awarded a 2003 Export Achievement Certificate in recognition of an increased focus on exporting.

The Export Achievement Certificate was created to recognize small- and medium-sized enterprises that have successfully entered the international marketplace for the first time or that have successfully entered a new market.

As our economy continues to become more global, it is important for industries of all types to develop relationships and ties in the international community. As the West Virginia economy diversifies, Consolidated Wood Products has taken major steps forward to promote the Mountain State and all it has to offer to the world economy.

By making strides to expand opportunities, Consolidated Wood Products has in turn brought benefits to the state that will be felt far beyond the business itself. I applaud Consolidated Wood Products for its efforts and look forward to seeing continued success.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of Consolidated Wood Products, and I offer them as an example to small- and medium-sized enterprises everywhere.

HONORING THE WORDS OF DANIEL COLVIN

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to honor the words of Daniel Colvin, a gifted poet from Youngstown, Ohio whom I am proud to claim as my constituent. Daniel is doing his part, by means of meter and rhyme, to advance the noblest goal for which we all strive—peace in our time.

Daniel is a freshman at Kent State University, majoring in architecture and plans to incorporate writing into his future—a future which is no doubt bright. His poem, *Armed with a Conscience*, was inspired by the attack on September 11, and the subsequent War on Terrorism. Mr. Colvin has expressed hope that his poem “will strike the consciences of all of mankind and help lead us to a world of peace.”

I am pleased and proud to share with my colleagues and the Nation, *Armed With a Conscience*, by Daniel Colvin:

I wake up in a pool of cold sweat
My heart drumming in my throat
My eyes were wide from the fear of a threat
Such fear that I cannot emote.

The dream that I had was unbearably sad
It hurts to even think about it
A nightmare so real, you could never have had

Well, you could have; but I doubt it.
I was in the army being all I could be

Being trained by the best in the field
They had taught me all that a soldier should be

How to kill without being killed.

I, the quick learner that I had always been
Had gone through the training with ease
I had always fit in with the strongest of men
But found nothing in common with these.

Some of them crazy, and some without care
Some who had dreamed to be soldiers
Some loyal to their country, and some of them scared

Some just had chips on their shoulders.

I was the strong silent type, I guess
I had always been social before
But trust me, you'll laugh and talk a lot less
When you're 18 and drafted to war.

I had been taught not to murder a soul
But in war, what else could I do?
I remembered how world peace had been my goal

But in battle, I would have to fight too.

So across the cold, muddy battlefield I crawled

Armed with my rifle in hand
I saw hatred and death and I was appalled
All this over money or land.

Dead bodies and body parts scattered on the ground

My gun still fully loaded
Explosions and shouting consumed sight and sound

Everything near me exploded.

I got up and ran to hide in the brush
But a foreign soldier was there
He had been hiding and trying to hush
So I caught him a bit unaware.

Still he had time to cock up his gun
I would have killed him, but couldn't
I had time to take off and run
I would have ran, but I wouldn't.

Instead, we stood aiming at each others' hearts

To me, it was nothing but nonsense
Staring in his eyes, I could tell he had smarts

But he also had a conscience.

In that moment, I knew that he was like me
He did not truly want to kill
Even the way he squeezed his gun tightly
Said that he was there against his own will.

So what do you do on the battle field
When you cross a man like yourself?
You don't want to kill, but you cannot yield
Nor ask anybody for help.

Shaking like crazy, we both started to sweat
My heart dropped; his skipped beats
Staring and letting our eyes make the threat
When inside we were fearing defeat.

I wanted to end the suspense and forget it
I started to pull the trigger
Then my conscience said, “You're gonna regret it

Your purpose in life is much bigger.”

I let go of my gun, but before it fell
I felt lead pierce through my chest
The other man's conscience hadn't worked so well

So he did what he thought was best.

I fell backward all the way to the ground
Smacking the back of my head
My fellow soldier came and shot the man down

And the last thing I saw was him dead.

So that's why I woke up in such a fright
Fearing the thought of war

I was thinking of the man in my dream last night

And grew sadder than ever before.

The sad part is not the fact that he shot me
That's not it, it really isn't
But since his conscience didn't teach him what mine taught me

I woke up and he didn't.