

what we must keep before our eyes, before and apart from our regard to anything that may derive from it.

We live in what is truly a moral world turned upside down, and the greatest irony may be that a broad consensus exists, in a highly rights-aware political establishment, in favor of one of the gravest and most egregious abuses of human rights that human society has ever tolerated. Didn't Europeans think they could never and must never kill again on an industrial scale? What a cruel deceit, then, that has led us to this mass killing of children, for a theoretical greater good, which in this case is simply the wish not to be bound by a pregnancy unless it is fully and freely chosen and which, outside of that parameter, is declared, by fiat, to be null and void.

The sophistry is overwhelming: If I choose and desire my child, then ipso facto I have granted it the right to live, and it will live. But the inverse is equally the case, by means of nothing more or less than my choice: Caesar's thumb is up, or Caesar's thumb is down. And when it comes to exporting this idea, we do it with zeal and determination through such institutions as the United Nations and the European Union.

The granting to ourselves of the right wantonly to kill, each year, millions of our offspring at the beginning of their lives: This is the question of questions for Europe. The practice of abortion is a mortal wound in Europe's heart, in the center of Hellenic and Judeo-Christian culture.

Having so recklessly carried this poison out of the twentieth—the ugliest of all centuries—let us, for the sake of all that has been good and beautiful and true about the culture of the West, be clear that there is an urgent moral priority here. Call it a “New Abolitionism for Europe”—the word abolitionism emphasizing the continuity between the challenge faced now with the generational campaigns waged so clear-sightedly in late-nineteenth-century America to rid itself of the injustice of slavery. The abolitionists, I believe, exemplify the courage and imagination required, even if they do not provide perfect templates for what we face now.

This is a task that calls for a broader approach to the safeguarding of life, as taught to us by those earlier struggles to apportion value where it previously had not been deemed to exist. We must re-enliven the valuing of life, and this cannot restrict itself to the question of abortion, despite its moral centrality. It must have regard to every threat to the integrity of human beings, at all stages of their being and in all circumstances.

The task for us is not merely to abolish. We must also creatively envisage new and compelling answers to the problems that give rise to this practice, when the easiest solutions may be destructive or distorting ones. And the goal is that human life, without any exception, may be as treasured and respected as the highest moral thought has perennially called for it to be, and as our consciences surely sound the echo.

Author affiliation:

Lord Nicholas Windsor studied theology at Oxford University and is patron of the Right to Life Charitable Trust and the Catholic National Library. Great-grandson of King George V of the United Kingdom, Windsor is the first blood member of the British royal family to be received into the Catholic Church since King Charles II on his deathbed in 1685.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MICHAEL “RAY” CAIN’S DISTINGUISHED CAREER

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Commander Michael “Ray” Cain, U.S. Coast Guard. Lieutenant Commander Cain retired in September 2010 after 27 years of faithful and diligent service to the U.S. Coast Guard and his Nation.

Lieutenant Commander Cain enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in September 1983 and quickly rose through the ranks to Senior Chief Petty Officer. He then earned a commission as a Chief Warrant Officer in 1999 prior to being selected for promotion to Lieutenant and subsequently Lieutenant Commander in 2009. LCDR Cain has diligently served the Coast Guard both afloat and ashore as a subject matter expert in electrical systems and marine inspections.

Lieutenant Commander Cain completed a seven-year tour in Astoria, Oregon, as the sole senior marine inspector responsible for ensuring the safety of more than 75 passenger vessels that carry thousands of passengers each year into the oftentimes hazardous waters off the Oregon and Washington coasts.

Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said, “Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, ‘This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better.’” Lieutenant Commander Michael “Ray” Cain truly is an American hero, for he has devoted much of his life to making his country and community better.

It is an honor for me to recognize Lieutenant Commander Cain for his service and for providing a heroic example to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SIKH FOUNDATION OF VIRGINIA’S 2010 ANNUAL CULTURAL PROGRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sikh Foundation of Virginia’s 2010 Annual Cultural Program.

The Sikh Foundation of Virginia (SFV) was established in 1987 to serve the religious and spiritual needs of the Northern Virginia Sikh community. The SFV promotes religious, educational, social and cultural aspects of Sikhism and collaborates with other religious organizations to host inter-faith events. The SFV is a welcome participant in an ethnically diverse Northern Virginia community.

The Annual Cultural Program brings the vibrant heritage of Sikhism and the Indian state of Punjab to Sikh American youth in Northern Virginia through songs, dances, poems, and literature readings. The event encourages Sikh Americans, especially children, teens and young adults, to preserve the culture and traditions of their Sikh ancestors as they grow to be contributing members of American society.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the Sikh Foundation of Virginia’s 2010 Annual Cultural Program. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to the SFV for its unique contribution to the ethnic fabric of the Northern Virginia community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. HYLAN BENTON LYON, JR.

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a dedicated veteran and scientist, Dr. Hylan Benton Lyon, Jr., of Heath, Texas, who died at the age of 74 on July 20, 2010.

Born July 20, 1936 in New London, Connecticut, Dr. Lyon was the son of World War II Veteran Rear Admiral Hylan Benton Lyon, Sr. and Wilma Lyon. In 1958, Hylan graduated from the United States Naval Academy and proudly served his Nation as a naval reconnaissance pilot during the Vietnam War from 1958 to 1969. In addition during his naval career, he attended the University of California, Berkeley where he earned a PhD in physical chemistry.

Dr. Lyon enjoyed a very successful career, serving under President Richard M. Nixon and President Gerald Ford on the President’s Science Advisor staff, which included working on the Advanced Aircraft Instrumentation program of the U.S. Office of Naval Research. In addition, he worked as a Science Policy Analyst with the State Department. He was a senior consultant to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy on International Science and Technology under President Jimmy Carter.

As a civilian, Dr. Lyon was a deputy director of the Science, Technology and Industry Directorate in the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, France and then spent ten years with Texas Instruments. While at Texas Instruments, Dr. Lyon used his vast experience in risk management and water resources serving as a member for President Carter’s National Agenda for the Eighties Commission and as a chairman of the National Defense University Distinguished Fellows with oversight of the Mobilization of Concepts Development Center. Following his time at Texas Instruments, Dr. Lyon was the chief technology officer for Marlow Industries for fifteen years and then worked for Dumas Capitol Partners LLC.

Dr. Lyon was the president and COO of Polytronix Inc. and was the co-founder of the Texas Institute of Science. He was a member of the Organization of Economic and Co-Operation of Development. In addition he was a member of the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC, Park City Rotary, Rockwall Republican Men’s Club and the Rockwall Power Team. He was an avid biker and fisher and had a love for sailing. He also was active in community service.

Hylan is survived by his wife, Sandra Starr Lyon, son Matthew Lyon and wife Jasmine Andrew Lyon, son Jonathan Lyon, son Christopher Starr and wife Rebecca, and son Kenneth Starr and wife Jennifer, daughter Karen

Rogers, several grandchildren, his sister Sharon Gugat and her husband Kevin, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He is also missed by those in the community and his classmates from the Naval Academy.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to have known such a wonderful citizen of Heath, Texas, who leaves a legacy in public service and in science that will be long remembered.

IN APPRECIATION OF MARY
COLLEEN MCCARTY

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Madam Speaker, on January 2, 1974, a gallon of gas cost about 53 cents, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 855, and the top-selling 45 on Billboard's chart was Jim Croce's "Time in a Bottle." That was also the day a recent college graduate, Mary Colleen McCarty, began her professional career, reporting to work in the personal office of Representative Robert H. Mollohan of West Virginia's first congressional district.

On January 2, 2011, Colleen will bring that remarkable career to a close, retiring from my office as Chief of Staff. For the 37 years between those two January days—9 years spent working for my father and 28 in my office—Colleen built a record of service and accomplishment that few congressional staffers can match.

All of us understand how important staff is to our work. It's been one of my privileges to work with many terrific staffers throughout my 28 years in Congress, men and women who have contributed to the first district in a wide variety of ways and whom I am proud to call friends today. But Colleen has always been the one constant. Few staffers survive, let alone thrive, for 37 years in what can be a stressful and demanding work environment. But what's behind that longevity? In Colleen's case, several things.

First is a real commitment to public service. Colleen never lost sight of our purpose here. She came to work every day determined to help the residents of the first district. She began her career as a caseworker, helping somebody get the VA benefits he'd earned or qualify for black lung benefits after a career in the mines, or maybe making sure someone else was getting the right social security check or helping an American stranded overseas with a visa problem. There's nothing abstract about that work; you see the results immediately and tangibly, and that was a lesson that Colleen applied to all of her work in my office—what we do up here matters to people and for that reason alone all of us need to do our best.

Another thing that Colleen brought to work every day was her honesty and the courage of that honesty. I learned early on not to ask Colleen's advice unless I were willing to hear something completely opposite of what I believed or hoped to hear. Colleen never hesitated to speak her mind to me, and, fortunately, she didn't always wait to be asked. I have always understood how important that quality is.

Honesty is only one measure of Colleen's personal integrity. She also has strength and

compassion in equal measures. That is true in her personal life as well as her professional one. I know, for example, how deeply her parents came to rely on Colleen as they negotiated the not uncommon challenges of aging. They knew, as I do, that you can always rely on Colleen.

A Congressman's Chief of Staff generally has two major responsibilities. The first is to serve as principal adviser. I just touched on how important Colleen's counsel has been. The other role, of course, is building and managing a good staff, something at which Colleen has always excelled. She cares about people, supports them, and helps them grow, both professionally and personally.

The culture of my office has always been a positive one, and that is thanks in large part to Colleen's leadership. I speak for myself as well as scores of staffers over the years in thanking Colleen for a thousand kindnesses, large and small, visible and hidden. In a very real way, Colleen retires with two bodies of work. The first is her sizable contributions to the congressional work of my father and me. And the second is the large network of staffers who have benefited from her support and mentoring over the years. In both bodies of work, Colleen enters retirement knowing that she made a difference in people's lives, that she left things better than she found them. And what more satisfaction could one ask of any career?

I always dreaded the prospect of having to replace Colleen. She actually tried to retire once or twice but always made the mistake of asking me rather than telling me. My response never varied—"No, Colleen, I just don't think it's the right time." And it never was the right time, for me anyway. I simply relied on her too much.

Well, Madam Speaker, now it is, finally, the right time. As I prepare to leave office, I take with me many wonderful things. But few mean as much to me as the support and the friendship of Mary Colleen McCarty. My wife, Barbara, and I offer Colleen our warmest wishes for a wonderful retirement.

TO CELEBRATE THE 25TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THOMAS JEFFER-
SON HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, TJHSST, on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary. Established in 1985, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is the result of collaboration among the local and State leaders, Fairfax County Public Schools and the business community to improve education in science, mathematics, and technology.

Located in the heart of the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, TJHSST is the premier high school in the United States, and its success continues to make Fairfax County one of the most sought out communities in which to live and do business. It is one of 18 Governor's Schools in the Commonwealth of

Virginia and is a founding member of the National Consortium of Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science, and Technology.

In 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, TJHSST was ranked the best public school in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report and has fielded more National Merit Semifinalists than any other high school for most the 1990s and 2000s. Between 2000 and 2005, more TJHSST students qualified for the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad than from any other high school and the school has a distinguished history of U.S. Physics Olympiad Team participation and medal winners. In 2007, 2009, and 2010, TJHSST held the record for the highest number of Intel Science Talent Search Semifinalists. Seven Rhodes Scholars have graduated from TJHSST, more than the number of Rhodes Scholars at most colleges in the entire country.

Each year, more than 25 percent of the graduating class accepts admission to the University of Virginia. Other prominent colleges popular among the graduates include the College of William and Mary, Duke University, and Princeton University. A number of graduates also have accepted appointments to West Point or the U.S. Naval Academy, becoming officers in our Armed Forces.

The incredible success of TJHSST would not be possible without the commitment of an exceptional educational staff, the dedication of parents and families, and the determination and drive of the students. All work together to support the efforts of every student and help ensure that each will succeed in college and during their professional lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology on its 25th Anniversary and in commending the community and the school for providing the very best education possible for our next great generation.

COMMEMORATING THE 96TH NA-
TIONAL CONVENTION OF THE
CHURCH OF GOD BY FAITH

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 96th National Convention of The Church of God By Faith. The Church Of God By Faith was founded in 1914 for the expressed purpose of glorifying God in the beauty of "Holiness". The Founders, Crawford Bright, Elder John Bright, Aaron Matthews, Sr., and Nathaniel Sciplo had a desire to seek the quality of life and character which is set before Christians as an ideal guide and moral obligation. This bonding or coming together and consequent formation of the Church of God By Faith was to serve as a basis whereby believers could be encouraged, educated in the Word of God, strengthened, sustained, spiritually grow, and be united in an environment where the Spirit of Christ is truly active. The Church was materialized from the perceptual thought of foresighted, spiritually led and blessed individuals.