

reform, he comes from a particular area, Orlando. This is his quote:

There's a consistent message throughout Scripture, and it's a command to welcome and to treat fairly all people, but especially the stranger and the foreigner in your land. When we fail to welcome the stranger, in essence we fail to welcome Christ.

And so Christians in our church, when they learn about God's heart for the immigrant and what the Bible has to say, their hearts are open because we are a people of faith, and it is our desire to live out that faith in our world.

Coupled with that, when they meet these immigrants, when they have personal encounters, all of a sudden this issue has a face, it has a story. And it's in that meeting that transformation happens and has happened here for us. We know that the time is now for this discussion.

I thank the pastor. I thank him because he's right. But I also thank him because I think his prayers, his supplications are being answered. I think the prayers of his congregation are being answered. We are coming together, and we are coming together in a bipartisan way.

There are many other things that we disagree on. I've been here not very long, but I can already tell you there are a lot of things that we disagree on. But more and more, we're coming together around the issue of comprehensive immigration reform, and we're coming together because it's the right thing to do.

In fact, the voices now—and they're few and they're shrill—seem to be a real outlier now. They seem to be far out, nowhere in the mainstream. Instead, we're down to the nitty-gritty and we're trying to figure out the small things. I think that that's very good; I think that that's healthy.

I appreciate, again, the candor that we've had on this discussion. It is a pleasure to have the discussion on immigration be so humane and values-based. But also, some of the interests around the country are coming together too.

I sit on the Agriculture Committee, and we were having a committee hearing on horticulture and specialty crops. Almost immediately, the discussion went to comprehensive immigration reform because it's one of the most important things for the agricultural community. Interestingly, they said that the bill in the Senate is not perfect, the bill that we're going to produce here is not perfect, but it's getting close. They're saying that there's a lot of agreement between those that work in the field and represent them and those that are the farmers. When do you see that? It seldom happens. Again, I think it's happening because of the prayers of the pastors.

I do want to read a few more of them because they've sent so many of them now to my office, and also because I appreciate what they're doing. They're making a difference here. I also want to show that it's not only in Orlando, in one part of the country; it's all over the country that pastors and religious

groups are coming together to pray for us, to encourage us to move forward on comprehensive immigration reform. So I would like to read from Reverend Dr. Fleming, senior pastor, Champion Forest Baptist Church in Houston, Texas:

We're beginning now to see immigrants as us. We live together, we work together, we serve together, we're all in this together, and the notion of welcoming the outsider and the stranger and inviting them in has been key to that. We see the immigrant as a person created in the image of God. They're husbands and wives, they're parents, they're children.

Oftentimes our broken immigration system causes great suffering in the homes and in the families and in the people's lives.

I believe, and my experience has been here in Texas that conservative Christians and evangelicals are rising to support a Biblical approach to this very complex issue.

I thank him. I thank Dr. Reverend David Fleming, senior pastor, Champion Forest Baptist Church of Houston, for his courage, for his prayers, for his encouragement, for his heart, and for his insight. I think it's very insightful. I want to quote him:

We're beginning now to see immigrants as us. We live together, we work together, we serve together, we're all in this together, and the notion of welcoming the outsider and the stranger and inviting them in has been key to that.

In fact, they have been invited in. I've had the great honor now to speak to many pastors, and evangelization has happened with many of the undocumented people that have come to our Nation.

Now, in fact, as the marine that I spoke of earlier, as well as the soldier, oftentimes they meet their spouses in church and they get married. Then we put them in a situation that if they legally want to live together their spouse has to leave the country for 10 years. Can you imagine that? The marine, who is again going to be deployed overseas, for his wife to be here legally she would have to leave the country for 10 years, what would she do with the children? Does she take them with her? They're American citizens. Does she go to this country that she really doesn't know anymore? How can that be right? How can that be fair? How can that be just? How can that be Christian? How can those be our values? They're not our values. That's why I thank Pastor Dr. David Fleming for stepping forward and saying it's time that we change.

Now, I happen to be a Catholic, so I'd like to quote now Archbishop Jose Gomez, the archbishop of Los Angeles and chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration. He says this:

Our collective faith groups are prepared to support just and humane reform of a broken immigration system. With the President's leadership and cooperation between both parties in Congress, we can achieve this goal within the year.

We agree with the President and the bipartisan Senate leaders who are stressing the importance of a path to citizenship for the undocumented. We should not sanction a permanent underclass in our society.

Never to correct an archbishop; however, I would add that also the good

work that's being done bipartisanship here, too, in this House, in the Congress, and you will soon see a bill.

I thank and I pray every day for the members of that group that are working hard—often under great stress—to come forward with a bill, a change in the law, that represents our better angels. It represents our values as Americans, as Christians, as Jews, as people of faith. So I thank them.

I'd also like to quote Reverend Samuel Rodriguez, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference:

Today's meeting invigorated me with hope and optimism. The President's resolve in conjunction with evangelical support facilitate the prescription for a comprehensive resolution addressing America's immigration crisis. I am convinced that with prayer and prophetic activism, we will live out Matthew 25 and welcome the stranger in the name of Jesus.

□ 1730

Of course he quotes famously Matthew 25. Matthew 25, of course, is the judgment where Jesus himself says how we will be judged as a nation. I hope you go back and read that part of Scripture.

Jesus says:

"When I was hungry, you gave me to eat. When I was thirsty, you gave me to drink. When I was naked, you clothed me. When I was ill, you cured me. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me. When I was a prisoner, you visited me."

Then of course the sheep will ask:

"When do we do that, Jesus?"

"When you did it to the least of my brothers."

That's what Reverend Samuel Rodriguez was quoting and most Christian groups quote. It's so profoundly who we are: the welcoming of the stranger, Christ among us.

Madam Speaker, I know I don't have much time left. I appreciate deeply the time that I was given today to speak to my colleagues and to speak to hopefully a larger crowd that I have great faith, I have great faith that we are coming together and we're coming together in a way that we will produce a bill that we can all be proud of and hopefully that we will all support but that will have bipartisan support. And it won't be an accident. It will be because of the prayers of these pastors. It will be because of the courage of Rabbi Stern. It will be because of all the encouragement that we've received from the faith communities outside of this House. It is because of their fervent love and support for the immigrant, the stranger, that we will have a just law, and I thank them.

Madam Speaker, thank you for the opportunity today. I yield back the balance of my time.

ATROCITIES OF ABORTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the

gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, there was a time when the rules of Congress forbid anyone to petition this Congress against slavery. For some inexplicable reason, once in a while, it seems mankind becomes completely blind to a monstrosity. History is replete with such examples. It seems we are never quite so eloquent as we are when we decry the crimes of the past generation, and yet we seem as staggeringly blind as some of our most sightless predecessors when it comes to facing and rejecting atrocities in our own time.

Whether it was slavery, the Nazi Holocaust, or the many human genocides across history, the patterns were the same. Innocent human beings, children of God all, were systematically dehumanized and then subjected to the most horrifying inhumanity. All the while, human society as a whole hardened their hearts and turned away.

But, Madam Speaker, truth and time travel on the same road. And although it was often agonizingly slow, the truth of these tragic inhumanities in our past began to dawn on people of reason and good will. Their hearts first and then their minds began to change.

I've often asked myself: What was it that changed their minds? What changed the minds of those who had previously embraced an invincible ignorance to hide from themselves the horror of what was happening to their innocent fellow human beings?

Madam Speaker, if I only really knew or if I knew how to express it because, you see, today such a conundrum looms before humanity once again, those most glaring examples of which are things like the trial in Philadelphia of Dr. Kermit Gosnell. In the words of the grand jury report, Gosnell had a simple solution for unwanted babies. He killed them. He didn't call it that, Madam Speaker. He called it "ensuring fetal demise." The way he ensured fetal demise was by sticking scissors in the back of the baby's neck and cutting the spinal cord. He called it "snipping." Over the years there were hundreds of "snippings."

When authorities entered the clinic of Dr. Gosnell, they found a torture chamber for little babies that I do not have the words or the stomach to adequately describe. Suffice it to say that Dr. Gosnell ran a systematic practice in his late-term abortion clinic to cut the spines of those babies who had survived his attempt to abort them.

Every American with the slightest shred of compassion for the innocent should learn the truth of this case for themselves, Madam Speaker, because perhaps the greatest tragedy of all surrounding this case is that it is not as rare as those in the media would try to convince us.

Six months after the Supreme Court legalized abortion on demand in the United States, Dr. Peter A.J. Adam, an

associate professor of pediatrics at Case Western University, reported to the American Pediatric Research Society concerning research he and associates had conducted on 12 babies up to 20 weeks old who had been born alive from hysterotomy abortion. These men decapitated these little babies and cannulated the internal carotid arteries. They then kept these little heads alive with heart-lung machines in order to study them. Like the victims of Dr. Gosnell, their spines had been completely sliced through and the painful agony that they were feeling is beyond our imagination, Madam Speaker.

Americans were outraged when they learned that the Russians had kept the heads of dogs alive in the 1950s. Yet, when asked, Peter Adams responded to the criticism of keeping these little human heads alive. He responded by saying:

Our society has declared the fetus dead and abrogated its rights. I don't see any ethical problem. Whose rights are we going to protect once we've decided the fetus won't live?

In another case, Madam Speaker, Dr. Abu Hayat, the Manhattan abortionist who severed the arm of a baby girl later born alive, is reportedly the first physician in the United States to be jailed for an illegal third-trimester abortion since the infamous 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Sixty-three-year-old Abu Hayat was convicted of having knowingly performed an abortion on Rosa Rodriguez in October of 1991. The 7- to 8-month-old baby girl she carried, baby Ana Rosa Rodriguez, was born the next day, but one of her arms was missing at the shoulder because of Dr. Hayat's botched abortion. Hayat was also convicted of assault on the woman because, in the middle of the abortion, he stopped to demand an additional \$500. When the woman's husband couldn't come up with the additional money, she was sent home semiconscious and still bleeding.

Madam Speaker, my heart goes out to those like Rosa Rodriguez, and especially to her, who sooner or later had to face the question from her baby daughter, Mommy, where is my arm? Oh, Madam Speaker, it beggars human imagination to try to take in the crushing emotional burden that the abortion industry in this country has heaped upon so many American mothers.

Madam Speaker, I will not expound upon the cases of abortionist Dr. Scott Rieke or abortionist Gordon Goei or Malvin Roy Weisberg in the infamous Weisberg incident in Woodland Hills, California. However, I will tell you, Madam Speaker, that they involved thousands of unborn children, many of them in their third trimester, in what can be described as a torturous and mass desecration of innocent unborn babies.

Would it be too much to hope for, Madam Speaker, that Members of this body and Americans in general might

research these tragedies for themselves, given the cataclysmic implications for any society who turns a blind eye to such atrocities against the most innocent and helpless of its members?

□ 1740

If our society is to survive with our humanity intact, our moral impulse toward our fellow human beings must first survive. Madam Speaker, that is why it is so important for people to see for themselves the inhumanity of what is being done to these little victims. Maybe it would not change everyone's mind, but it has changed many minds. One such example gained a lot of media coverage.

Abby Johnson spent 9 years working at a Texas Planned Parenthood clinic—first as a volunteer and then as clinic director. At one point, she was asked to assist during a routine abortion procedure. Amazingly, this was the first time in those 9 years that Abby had actually watched on an ultrasound an abortion being performed. She recounts holding the transducer over the mother's midsection and observing the display of the baby's movements on the screen. She then watched as the abortion proceeded and as the unborn baby attempted unsuccessfully to escape the probe.

She said:

I could see the whole profile of the baby. I could see the probe. I could see the baby try to move away from the probe, and I just thought: What am I doing? Then I thought: never again.

Two weeks later, looking out the clinic window and seeing two members of Coalition for Life standing outside, praying, Johnson walked out of the clinic and joined them, and she has never looked back.

Then there was the case of Brenda Shafer, a nurse who was so radically pro-abortion that she told her teenage daughters that they would be forced to have an abortion if they ever got pregnant; but only 3 days of working in an abortion clinic was more than she could handle.

She speaks of going in on her third and final day and watching as the doctor performed three partial-birth abortions, including one procedure on a 6-month-old baby boy with Down syndrome. She watched as the little boy's arms and legs were delivered, his little fingers clapping and unclapping, his feet kicking before the vacuum tube was inserted into the baby's head. He went completely limp—only to be discarded as if he were nothing more than a rag.

Brenda said:

I have been a nurse for a long time, and I have seen a lot of death—people maimed in auto accidents, gunshot wounds, you name it—and I have seen surgical procedures of every sort; but in all of my professional years, I had never witnessed anything like this. For a long time, sometimes still, I had nightmares about what I saw in the clinic that day.

Former abortion provider Nita Whitten tells a similarly gut-wrenching

story of a young teenage girl who was pressured by her mother to have an abortion. The doctors had inserted what is called a "laminaria" to allow the abortion to be performed. Nita describes the young girl going into the bathroom and screaming at the top of her lungs for her mother, screaming over and over "It's a baby. It's a baby" after she saw the baby that was aborted in the toilet.

For this little girl, who will forever be scarred by what she saw, there was no debate about whether her baby was just a blob of tissue. Unlike the ostensibly educated abortionists, this girl realized intuitively what science has long argued: conception creates a genetically unique human life—a baby.

All of these people shared a common thread when they were confronted with the brutality and the reality of abortion. They could no longer deny the truth that abortion is the murder of a defenseless child. It's easy for those of us who are far removed from the actual abortion clinics—those who do not have to confront the unspeakable pain caused within the doors of those clinics every day—to idealize and justify abortion on demand.

They tell themselves that they are really fighting for women. They convince themselves that that little flicker they see on the ultrasound screen, as the baby is savagely torn apart in his own mother's womb, is not the tiny beating heart of another living being. They lie to themselves year after year, ignoring the truth that every 5-year-old child knows instinctively. They desensitize themselves to the horrors and the reality until the violent destruction of a defenseless baby is viewed as if it were nothing more than having one's tonsils removed.

Indeed, this is the hope and the goal of monsters like Kermit Gosnell or Abu Hayat or Scott Ricke or Gordon Goei or Malvin Weisberg, just to name a few.

When Abby Johnson, Brenda Shafer, Nita Whitten, and so many others like them saw what abortion really was, they changed their minds. I would never suggest that I clearly know what sparked the change in their hearts, but I am convinced that it is the same spark in the human soul that has turned the tide of blood and tragedy and hatred and inhumanity throughout history. And, Madam Speaker, I am also convinced that it is mankind's only hope.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BURGESS (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of attending the opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas, Texas.

Mr. SESSIONS (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of attending the

opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas, Texas.

Mr. MARCHANT (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of attending the opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas, Texas.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on April 25, 2013, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 1246, To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to provide that the District of Columbia Treasurer or one of the Deputy Chief Financial Officers of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia may perform the functions and duties of the Office in an acting capacity if there is a vacancy in the Office.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, April 26, 2013, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1262. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Project-Level Predecisional Administrative Review Process (RIN: 0596-AD07) received April 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1263. A letter from the Director, Policy Issuances Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Ingredients and Sources of Radiation Listed and Approved for Use in the Production of Meat and Poultry Products [Docket No.: FSIS-2011-0018] (RIN: 0583-AD47) received April 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1264. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flumioxazin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0139; FRL-9381-7] received April 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1265. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a biennial strategic plan for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency for 2012; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1266. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of 11 officers to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of major general or brigadier general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1267. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule

— Chartering and Field of Membership Manual for Federal Credit Unions (RIN: 3133-AE02) received April 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1268. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Identity Theft Red Flags Rules (RIN: 3235-AL26) received April 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1269. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Report to Congress on Dual Language Learners in Head Start and Early Head Start Programs"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1270. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Change of Address; Biologics License Applications; Technical Amendment [Docket No.: FDA-2013-N-0011] received April 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1271. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Reactive Blue 247 Copolymers [Docket Nos.: FDA-2011-C-0344 and FDA-2011-C-0463] received April 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1272. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Mississippi; 110(a)(2)(E)(ii) Infrastructure Requirement for the 1997 and 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0402; FRL-9798-6] received April 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1273. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District and South Coast Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0828; FRL-9776-6] received April 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1274. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Georgia: New Source Review-Prevention of Significant Deterioration [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0662; FRL-9798-5] received April 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1275. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Region 4 States; Prong 3 of Section 110(a)(2)(D)(i) Infrastructure Requirement for the 1997 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0814; FRL-9799-8] received April 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1276. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Antelope Valley