

graduated from Harvard Law School on the GI Bill.

As a young, Harvard-educated lawyer and Italian immigrant, however, my dad couldn't find a job. Italians were not respected, and after Hitler teamed up with Mussolini during the war, Italian Americans were not trusted, either.

My dad decided to return to Glen Cove, where he teamed up with another Italian lawyer, ran for city court judge, and became the youngest judge in the history of New York State.

My father achieved many other great successes, and he would always say, "What a country." His life was the very essence of the American Dream.

Our American Dream, however, is at risk. It may soon be the American nightmare.

Well, I still believe in my father's American Dream, and I am committed to keeping it alive.

Immigration has been an issue for decades, yet after all these years, Congress has yet to pass immigration reform.

President Trump's cruel, divisive, and simply unworkable positions have made things worse. His policies and rhetoric have exacerbated the problem, permeating a culture of fear that forces many immigrants further into the shadows.

I have been an advocate for fair and reasonable immigration policies for more than 25 years. As mayor of my hometown of Glen Cove, New York, in 1994, I created the very first shape-up center on the East Coast of the United States of America. It gave newcomers from Central and South America a safe place to get hired and made sure they got paid for the work they did. If they didn't get hired, they could stay and learn English or new job skills.

As county executive, in 2007, I refused to let ICE work with my Nassau County Police Department because ICE was acting like cowboys, drawing guns and knocking down doors, intimidating children and families who were not even subject to their raids and all of who together presented no risk of violence whatsoever.

Today, those same guys who gathered on the street corners of Glen Cove now own their own businesses and own their own homes, and their kids attended school with my kids.

But now, President Trump's heartless immigration actions are separating parents from their children, and children are being housed in cages.

I have seen it with my own eyes. This past July, I traveled to McAllen and Brownsville, Texas, to personally inspect the detention and relief centers, visit points of entry, speak with migrant families, and meet with humanitarian aid organizations. My visit to the detention centers along our southern border was heartbreaking. I saw men, women, and children being held in awful conditions.

Our system is broken. These centers are overcrowded, unsanitary, and clear-

ly ill-equipped to care for people in great numbers.

Meanwhile, the administration continues to promulgate more callous and mean-spirited decisions aimed at further attacking immigrants. Deporting children with cancer and diverting funds from military programs to build the wall, including money that was meant to go toward building schools for military families, and keeping immigrant children locked in indefinite detention are unconscionable.

These decisions endorsed by this administration are not consistent with American values. America is founded on the fundamental principle that "all men and women are created equal." It is not that everyone with a green card or U.S. citizenship is created equal; it is that every man and woman is created equal and should be treated with human respect and dignity.

We must continue holding congressional hearings on forced family separation; the detention of children for prolonged periods of time; the decision to end TPS and DACA, the Dreamer plan; and the overwhelming backlog in U.S. immigration courts.

We must also defund hate, as my friends at Bend the Arc are advocating, and set a floor for refugee admissions at 95,000, as my friends at the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society are advocating.

In addition to defunding the hateful policies of this administration, we must also strive for comprehensive immigration reform that treats people like human beings, lives up to the American Dream, gives a path of citizenship for TPS recipients and Dreamers, gives protection to millions of others, and secures our borders.

Robert F. Kennedy once said, "When we tolerate what we know to be wrong, when we close our eyes and ears to the corrupt because we are too busy or too frightened, when we fail to speak up and speak out, we strike a blow against freedom and decency and justice."

We need to restore truth and compassion to the debate over immigration in America, and we need to do it now, because the promise of the American Dream demands it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of Heaven and Earth, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Today we remember a day 18 years ago, begun in terror and violence, and ended in heroic effort and courage. We mourn those whose lives were snatched from them, and wish to comfort those left behind who still strive to cope with their loss. May You, O God, give them peace and healing.

We thank You again for the almost universal, international response to a great American tragedy, which all the world recognized as theirs as well. All Your children of good will could see the horror of actions by men, who would presume to act in Your name, causing so much death and destruction. May Your spirit of peace and justice continue to fill the hearts of people of all faiths, races, and nations. Help us to recognize Your creative love in the lives of all who share this beautiful planet.

Bless the men and women who serve this great Nation in the Senate and House of Representatives. May they be reminded of the importance of standing together to face the dangers presented by America's historical enemies.

May they be confident in the knowledge that all Americans stand behind them in their common effort to forge legislation that will reflect the resilient greatness of our Nation, protect our democratic process, and build a vibrant economy into a safe and secure future.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LEVIN of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

COMMEMORATING THE 18TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, how familiar this day is.

As a Member of the United States Congress who was in this building on 9/11, it was a bright and shiny day in New York and Washington, D.C. as we fled this building, saw the billowing smoke in the Pentagon, and knew that the other towers had already fallen by someone telling us something had happened. Hearing rumors that planes were flying into the White House and the State Department, we wondered about the resilience and the freedom of this Nation.

How grateful I am to stand here, 18 years later, to remind Americans and those who were not yet born that that was a day that should be reminding us every day of the greatness of our freedom, the value of our democracy, and the power of our people.

We honor those who fell, those families who still do not know of their missing loved ones, those who went to war, those who have come back.

But most of all, this day is to remind us of the wonderment of the representation of this Nation, the diverse Nation that it is, people from all walks of life, that whatever we have to overcome, whatever divisiveness we may see yesterday, today, or tomorrow, it will never—it will never—undermine the greatness of this country.

I will always, as one who was here, I will always remember and I will never forget. And I honor those whose lives were lost, pray for their families, but celebrate this country as we sang on the east steps, “God Bless America.”

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER THE 11TH IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on the 18th anniversary of the September 11th attacks, Patriot Day, we remember Islamic extremist terrorists hijacked passenger jets to murder nearly 3,000 innocent Americans in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. It is sickening to think of the men and women and children who were slaughtered. Our remembrance promotes the legacy of the people who were mercifully murdered.

I am humbled and inspired by the strength and resilience, just as my colleague, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, of our country when we stand together to remember this mutual tragedy. Today, I remain inspired by Todd Beamer’s heroic immediate response, “Let’s roll.”

This summer, I visited the sites of Islamic extremist attacks in Buenos

Aires, Argentina, of 1994 and in Mumbai, India, of 2008. The brave people of America, Argentina, and India are prepared to stand together to resist further mass murder.

On this day, we honor the lives of those affected by the attack. It is also a day to salute our military who served to protect our freedom and to deny Islamic extremists a safe haven in Afghanistan.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE GRANDVIEW BEACH BLUFF COLLAPSE

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

Mr. LEVIN of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize an unimaginable tragedy that occurred in my district last month.

On August 2, three women from the same family died when a coastal bluff at Grandview Beach in Encinitas collapsed on top of them: Julie Davis, Annie Clave, and Elizabeth Charles. They were enjoying a day at the beach with family and friends celebrating Elizabeth’s triumph over breast cancer. Suddenly, all three were lost.

There is a lot that I would like to say about the government’s responsibility to help prevent similar tragedies in the future, but, instead, I want to use this moment to recognize the extraordinary life that all three of these women brought into this world.

I had the opportunity to sit down with Dr. Pat Davis, who lost his wife, one of his daughters, and his sister-in-law on that day. Today, Dr. Davis is committed to ensuring that no one else experiences the same kind of loss that he has. He has called for action from local, State, and Federal officials to prevent future bluff collapses, and we stand together in these efforts. He is truly an inspiration.

Please take a moment to think of Julie, Annie, and Elizabeth. May they rest in peace.

COMMEMORATING THE 18TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of those who lost their lives on 9/11/2001.

Eighteen years ago, the lives of innocent men, women, and children were senselessly taken at the hands of Islamic terrorists under the command of Osama bin Laden. Before day’s end, nearly 3,000 civilians, firefighters, law enforcement officers, and servicemembers would perish in the World Trade Center, on United Flight 93 in Pennsylvania, and in the Pentagon.

Though another year has passed, the pain remains for the families who lost a loved one that fateful day. I pray for all of those people who have lost someone today and pray for them tomorrow, and I pray for those in harm’s way who continue to serve across the globe to ensure that we can live safely in the greatest country in the world: the United States of America.

Never forget, and may God bless America.

In God we trust.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texas is home to many gun owners.

Growing up, my family owned guns for hunting. It was part of how we fed our family. Thus, I don’t want to infringe on Second Amendment rights of Americans.

I do, however, want to stop the killing of innocent lives because someone was at risk to themselves or others who bought or accessed a firearm. Too many loopholes allow people to purchase, procure, or access a firearm.

Too many Texans have already died in mass shootings—so this is very personal to me—most recently, of course, in west Texas.

The House has already passed two bills that would prevent mass shootings. Last night, three more bills were marked up and will be ready for a floor vote.

Senate Republicans must allow a vote on gun control legislation. I am tired of people being killed because they won’t act. I end by asking them, Mr. Speaker: What will you do to save lives? What are you afraid of?

COMMEMORATING THE 18TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, we all remember where we were on September 11, 2001. I, myself, drove my daughter, Caroline, to school on my way to work. She was in the third grade. Driving over the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania on my way to work, I recall thinking what a beautiful day it was.

I watched with coworkers soon after that the horror of the planes hitting the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. A few days later, I was asked to come to Ground Zero to help.

I will never forget the hospitals were all prepared for injured in Manhattan, but there were no injured, or very few. I will never forget the families and the communities that showed resilience and hope. I will never forget the crowds of people cheering the first responders as they traveled toward Ground Zero.