times the strength of steel. They took him to Johnston Memorial Hospital. His life was saved. The doctor said if he had not been wearing a vest, he would have died on the spot.

Mr. Speaker, each and every law enforcement officer in America should have the protection of a bulletproof vest. We have legislation to accomplish this. I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 2829, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant. It is now tied up in a committee. The Republican leadership has refused to allow it to move. That is outrageous. In the name of Officer Smith and all law enforcement officers, I demand that this bill pass.

PAKISTAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to focus attention on the situation facing minority religious believers in Pakistan. Although the country's constitution upholds religious freedom, section 295(c) of the penal code states that defiling the sacred name of Mohammed is punishable by death. Unfortunately, reports suggest that some Pakistanis use this law, which carries with it a mandatory death penalty, to falsely accuse Christians of blasphemy.

Let me illustrate with several photographs. The first photograph reveals a young woman sitting in the midst of the destruction caused when the government bulldozed the Christian church and surrounding community buildings. The second photograph shows the view of Reverend Noor Alam, a Christian clergyman lynched by extremists recently in Pakistan. The next photograph depicts the treatment of Pakistani Christians who protested last year's destruction of churches in Shantinagar. Members can see the ropes around their necks.

Mr. Speaker, freedom of religion is a fundamental human right and should be protected by all governments of the world, including the government of Pakistan.

DEMOCRATS UNVEIL EDUCATION AGENDA

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, every day all across America we tell children that education is very important to their future. But we send them a contradictory message in the condition of American schools. If we truly want to convince children of the importance of education, we must improve the schools at which they learn and reduce class size. Just a few weeks ago, the Democratic leadership of the House and the Senate joined with President Clinton in rolling out a Democratic agenda which calls for smaller classes, it calls for 100,000 new teachers to teach in these smaller classes, and an initiative to repair old schools and build new schools. This initiative of President Clinton's which I hope the entire Congress will join in calls for a $20 billion initiative on tax-free bonds for local communities to rebuild their schools. The schools our children learn in are in some cases environmental hazards. In many cases the classrooms are overcrowded. In all cases there is need for reconstruction. Send a clear, consistent message to children that education is important by placing an importance on their schools.

DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION INITIATIVE

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, this body has no greater challenge than to make sure that all of America's children no matter how humble their background have access to a quality education. Education is the great equalizer in our Nation. It is what has allowed the daughter of a garment worker like myself to grow up to be a Member of the House of Representatives. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to dismantle public education, to siphon off precious funds into risky voucher proposals. Democrats have a plan to strengthen America's public schools by repairing and modernizing crumbling schools, putting 100,000 teachers in the classroom to promote stronger discipline and better learning, and to cut down on class size. America's public schools have made our Nation strong and put the American dream within reach for so many of our Nation's children. I urge my Republican colleagues not to abandon our children but to follow the Democrats' lead in working to rebuild America's public schools and to maintain strong public education in this Nation.

OUR LIBERAL FRIENDS

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, the President and his allies in this House are calling us the Do-Nothing Congress. I agree. We are the do-nothing-the-liberals-like Congress. Maybe that is why the poll numbers for Congress are at an all-time high, because this Congress will not do anything to the American people. We will not raise their taxes, we will not stick them with unfunded mandates, we will not drive their small businesses out of business, we will not kill the economy, we will not spend the surplus, we will not waste their hard-earned money. I understand that the minority leadership has another agenda and we are hearing it this morning. When Democrats have another so-called agenda, the American taxpayer should have a panic attack. You can say this about our liberal friends on the other side of the aisle. They got what it takes to take what you got. Let us face the facts. The American people want a break from more wasteful Washington programs no matter what our liberal friends might say.

DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION INITIATIVE

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a long-term vision, the vision of the Democratic Party to support education in America, to invest in our young people. The fact of the matter is that while a short-term tax cut may be nice, your children's future is tied to education. Education is the key to opportunity. Right now we like to talk about the new jobs, the global jobs, the high-tech jobs. But the fact of the matter is that without a good education, we cannot get those jobs. Right now American employers are looking overseas to hire people because our system does not provide enough qualified, well-educated young people. How can we address this problem? The Democrats advocate first improving our schools. Over a third of our schools need major repairs.

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Over 50 percent of our schools are not prepared or wired for the Internet. We have class sizes that are too large, and we lack discipline in the schools. The Democrats advocate a major investment in education to repair our schools. The Democrats advocate a major investment in hiring 100,000 new teachers so we can have smaller classrooms, better discipline and provide a better educated work force to take on the new jobs of the new millennium.

FREEDOM WORKS AWARD TO FAMILY MISSIONS

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to present the Freedom Works Award to the Family Missions of the D.C. area. I established the Freedom Works Award to celebrate freedom by recognizing individuals and groups who promote personal responsibility instead of reliance on the government.

The Family Missions was founded in 1968 and has chapters in most cities across the United States. It is a privately funded charitable religious organization made up of families who believe their Christian duty is best served by assisting and operating homeless shelters, soup kitchens and offering other human services assistance within their communities. Their activities

have ranged from delivering 2 tons of milk weekly for the last 4 years to D.C.-area soup kitchens, to serving as Red Cross deputies in Florida during the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew.

It really warms my heart to see these young people doing all they can to help people in need. The Family Missions volunteers also help teenage runaways and shelters for battered women. This organization has taken on these difficult tasks and more without receiving a single penny of Federal assistance. Instead, they have relied on the personal initiative taken by Cindy Thompson, Sam Lloyd, Brian Thomas Edwards and Lisa Salazar, and a long list of other members of the family.

The success of the Family Missions is based on the simple belief that there is no greater love for our fellow man than to be willing to lay down our life for them.

Mr. Speaker, government alone cannot solve our Nation's problems. That does not mean we simply throw up our hands in frustration. It means every single one of us, no matter what our politics, must roll up our sleeves and do the work each of us is capable of doing to rebuild our neighborhoods and communities. Every day groups like the Family Missions demonstrate the understanding that with freedom comes responsibility.

Sadly enough, there is far more homelessness and hunger in this great Nation than any of us are willing to accept. Poor and distressed people need hope, they need love, they need people willing to come to them, if necessary, who will show they care. They found all these things and more in the Family Missions.

If we are a great country today, then if we are going to be a great country in the future, it will be because of groups like Family Missions.

FOCUS ON HELPING CHILDREN

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important challenges we have as we move toward the 21st century is to make sure that the children of America really count. In order to do that, there are so many needs that children have. One of them, of course, is the rebuilding of our schools and better school infrastructure.

Almost one-third of our public schools were built prior to the beginning of World War II in 1939, and an in-depth study shows that one-third of the 80,000 public elementary and secondary schools in the United States, about 26,000 have at least one building in need of extensive repair. The Democrats' rebuilding school bill is the right direction for our children.

Children must be in the forefront of our mind, the same way that the Congressional Children's Caucus next week will hold an important hearing on access to mental health resources for our children. Eleven million children have a diagnosable mental, emotional behavioral disorder, and 1 in 20 will have severe disorder by age 18.

This is an important cause, our children are an important cause. I hope that our colleagues will focus their attention in the next couple of months in helping our children.

LEGISLATION TO PREVENT PROSECUTORIAL ABUSE

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

Mr. MCDADE. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation cosponsored by our colleague JACK MURTHA that will safeguard the citizens of this Nation from unfair, abusive and unethical conduct by rogue employees of the Department of Justice.

The bill establishes clear standards of conduct for Department of Justice employees and makes them accountable for transgressions.

The legislation makes it punishable, for example, for a DOJ employee to engage in actions such as seeking the indictment of a person without probable cause, failing to release information that would exonerate someone under indictment, or misleading the court.

An independent review board is created to monitor compliance with those standards, and that board would have the authority to impose penalties on those found guilty, all of this done in public.

For the information of my colleagues, I am submitting for the record a lengthy list of cases where U.S. courts have found prosecutorial abuse. This list was prepared by the Library of Congress at my request.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, which would ensure the constitutional rights of American citizens.

SUPPORT MORE TEACHERS AND MORE REPAIRS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, public school education has made this country the most productive and advanced country on the planet. It is the key that opens the door of opportunities to achieve the American dream. It is not only where we learn our common American heritage and our common values, but it is where we can set a high level of achievement and expectation for all American students.

Supporters of public schools understand that our public schools must get better, but let us start at the beginning, grades 1, 2 and 3. That is why I support President Clinton's 100,000 new teachers to reduce class size. Smaller class sizes mean more individualized attention for all of our kids, and a safer and better environment in which they can learn.

But there are those in the extreme who want to tear down our public schools and take money from them, to eliminate the opportunity for all Americans to be able to achieve the American dream.

I urge my colleagues to support President Clinton's plan to reduce class size for 100,000 more schoolteachers, and to provide repairs to the needy school districts whose school buildings are in disrepair.

HOPE NOW FOR YOUTH

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have begun to downsize the institution of government through privatizing, localizing and eliminating Federal programs, and returning more power, money and decision-making to families and local communities. But that is not enough. As a society, we must release the power of religious and civic organizations to solve local problems.

One such organization is Hope Now for Youth in Fresno, California. Hope Now for Youth hires religious, ethnic college students to serve as counselors for young men in Fresno who are involved in risky behavior. The counselors seek to provide the parenting that these kids have missed growing up. Other services include job training, job placement, and help with meeting basic needs.

Hope Now for Youth does all of this without any government money. It is funded by individuals and businesses in Fresno who have taken personal responsibility to rebuild their own communities. It relies heavily on volunteers who give of their time and their love.

Mr. Speaker, Hope Now for Youth is an effective local charity that is a positive role model for all Americans. Local charities like Hope Now for Youth deserve our support. Anyone wishing to find out more may contact my office.

GET ADVICE ON EDUCATION FROM EDUCATORS

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues have ridiculed the President's proposal to hire 100,000 new teachers and to reduce class size to 18. I would suggest that they may want to get out of Washington and talk to some real people about this issue. I did just that last weekend.

My daughter, Alanna, is a third grade public schoolteacher in the suburbs of