

*the Public Schools: Questions and Answers\**, a pamphlet published by a broad spectrum of religious and civil liberties groups.

EXCUSAL FROM RELIGIOUSLY-OBJECTONABLE LESSONS

15. Schools enjoy substantial discretion to excuse individual students from lessons which are objectionable to that student or to his or her parent on the basis of religion. Schools can exercise that authority in ways which would defuse many conflicts over curriculum content. If it is proved that particular lessons substantially burden a student's free exercise of religion and if the school cannot prove a compelling interest in requiring attendance the school would be legally required to excuse the student.

TEACHING VALUES

16. Schools may teach civic virtues, including honesty, good citizenship, sportsmanship, courage, respect for the rights and freedoms of others, respect for persons and their property, civility, the dual virtues of moral conviction and tolerance and hard work. Subject to whatever rights of excusal exist (see ¶15 above) under the federal Constitution and state law, schools may teach sexual abstinence and contraception; whether and how schools teach these sensitive subjects is a matter of educational policy. However, these may not be taught as religious tenets. The mere fact that most, if not all, religions also teach these values does not make it unlawful to teach them.

STUDENT GARB

17. Religious messages on T-shirts and the like may not be singled out for suppression. Students may wear religious attire, such as yarmulkes and head scarves, and they may not be forced to wear gym clothes that they regard, on religious grounds, as immodest.

RELEASED TIME

18. Schools have the discretion to dismiss students to off-premises religious instruction, provided that schools do not encourage or discourage participation or penalize those who do not attend. Schools may not allow religious instruction by outsiders on premises during the school day.●

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC TERRORISM

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the tragedy that took place on April 19 at the Federal building in Oklahoma City was an unspeakable horror. This was a cowardly and heinous act by deranged people whose obsessions led to the killing of innocent men, women, and children. I want the people who perpetrated this act to be hunted down and to be appropriately, quickly, and harshly dealt with by our criminal justice system.

The tragic bombing at Oklahoma City has sparked a debate in our country about how to prevent a tragedy of this type from occurring again. It is important to understand that in a free country it is virtually impossible to provide any ironclad protection against the violent acts of deranged people. But part of being free is the requirement to ensure civil order. That is the job that we ask our law enforcement officials to do.

The question we must now ask ourselves is how can we protect Americans without infringing on the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution. People

have a constitutional right to criticize their government and the institutions of this Nation. This right not only applies to people we like—our neighbors and our friends—it also applies to people we do not like and associations we do not care for. This right must be preserved.

The Oklahoma City bombing has also sparked a debate about militia groups in our country. People have every right to join organizations. However, I have heard some militia leaders say the Federal Government is their avowed enemy when they have been interviewed on television programs. Some of them talk in terms of violence and battles. I think that is an unhealthy attitude and I think that thinking can lead to violence.

I want to emphasize my commitment to preserving the fundamental freedoms that are guaranteed to all Americans under our Constitution. But I also want to emphasize that I join those in our country who want to send a message to the people who cross the line between criticizing our government and advocating or resorting to violence or terrorism. There is no constitutional right to commit violence in our country. There is no constitutional right to kill innocent men, women, and children. And those who do should be dealt with aggressively by our law enforcement agencies.

It is important that we discuss these issues in a thoughtful, reasonable, and constructive way. In America, we can disagree without being disagreeable. We can have a debate without shouting. And we can work together to fix things that are wrong in this country and to make this a better place. Most importantly, we should protect and cherish our constitutional rights. One of those rights is to live in a free country—free from the unspeakable horrors that were perpetrated on innocent people in Oklahoma City.●

IN HONOR OF ABBA EBAN

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise this morning to honor a great statesman on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Abba Eban—statesman, diplomat, scholar, and author—was born in South Africa on February 2, 1915. As a young man growing up in London, Mr. Eban learned fluent Hebrew and became an active member of the Zionist movement.

He studied at Cambridge University, and became a lecturer in Hebrew, Arabic, and Persian literature.

Mr. Eban served in World War II, where he was assigned to Jerusalem as liaison officer of Allied Headquarters. After the war, he entered the service of the Jewish agency in Jerusalem. In 1947, he became the agency's liaison officer with the U.N. Special Commission on Palestine.

In 1948, Mr. Eban was appointed as Israel's representative to the United Nations and in this capacity, he ap-

peared before the General Assembly to plead successfully for his country's admission to the United Nations.

In 1950, Abba Eban was appointed Israel's Ambassador to the United States. At 35, he was the youngest person to hold such a high rank in Washington's diplomatic corps.

In 1959, after returning to Israel, Mr. Eban was elected to the Israeli Knesset as a member of the Labor Party. He joined the Cabinet as Minister Without Portfolio, was appointed Minister of Education and Culture in 1960, and in 1963, he became Deputy Prime Minister under Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.

In 1966, Mr. Eban became Israel's Minister for Foreign Affairs, a position he held until June 1974.

Through the years, Mr. Eban has been recognized in numerous arenas for his diplomatic prowess and his contributions to the state of Israel. He holds honorary doctorates from several universities, including New York University, Boston University, the University of Maryland, and the University of Cincinnati. He is a fellow of the World Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the only living member of the Orator's Hall of Fame.

Mr. Eban recently served as host and narrator of "Israel: A Nation is Born," a five-part historical television miniseries, documenting 40 years of Israel's history.

Mr. President, the Israeli people have been fortunate to count Mr. Eban among their leaders. He has consistently represented the Jewish state with dignity, with strength and with aplomb. As he celebrates this birthday, we should all take this opportunity to celebrate his many accomplishments.●

HYDROGEN—AN ENERGY SOURCE FOR THE FUTURE

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I have long advocated greater investment in the development of sustainable hydrogen energy. Hydrogen has a tremendous potential to be the energy carrier of the future. It is an ideal energy source as it is plentiful, efficient and clean burning. An excellent article describing the many advantages of hydrogen as an energy source appeared in the March 19, 1995 edition of the Los Angeles Times Magazine. I urge all of my colleagues to read this article and I ask that the text of the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Los Angeles Times Magazine, March 3, 1995]

HARNESSING THE BIG H

HYDROGEN SEEMS THE IDEAL ENERGY SOURCE—PLENTIFUL, EFFICIENT AND CLEAN. CAN SOMETHING THIS PERFECT BE REAL? JUST ASK THE JAPANESE

(By Alan Weisman)

West of Denver, Interstate 70 enters Golden, Colo., and begins to curl through the foothills of the Rockies. There is bisects an unassuming clump of brick buildings—the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.