

contribution to a bank PAC, or let us say that you are an individual who makes a contribution to a particular other PAC, what happens is that the character of that contribution changes from being complex and subtle and intelligent to being stupid and narrow and ugly, with only one or two specific political agendas for that term of Congress.

ADMINISTRATION SHOULD ADVISE CONGRESS REGARDING CURRENT HAITI SITUATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I will not use the 5 minutes. Mr. Speaker, I took the well last evening because we had received a surprise from Haiti. We were getting ground reports that the 82d Airborne had arrived in that country, at least in company strength, and was very visible on Humvee vehicles with machine guns and battle gear going around the capital city and elsewhere in the country.

The people were puzzled about what was going on, so we asked for an explanation from the administration. Today is another day and today is another day we have had more silence from the administration on exactly what are our increased American troops doing in Haiti and what, in fact, is going on in Haiti.

Many people who do not follow what goes on in that friendly neighboring country just to the south of Florida, which is my district, are not aware that they have just had the equivalent of their O.J. Simpson trial there over the death of a respected man named Guy Mallory who was assassinated a few years ago, among many assassinations that have regrettably taken place in that country. That trial came out that they acquitted two suspects that they felt they had pretty good evidence. And now the President of the country has come along and said there was something, quote, suspicious about the verdict.

The judicial system does not work very well in Haiti. It is a country where passions tend to run very quickly and very intensely. We have now got people in the streets saying that this jury contained people who were enemies of the people. "Enemies of the people" in Haiti is code word and it usually precursus trouble.

We have got now a situation where we have got obviously a bad situation in the country and a lot of agitation and feeling going on. And apparently we have now sent the 82d Airborne, at least part of it. We do not know exactly what they are doing. We do not send the 82d Airborne just anywhere. They are a crack American outfit. We reserve them for our most difficult problems and hot spots. I would suggest that Bujumbura, Burundi, today is a place where the human rights viola-

tions and the black-on-black genocide is so atrocious that if there were a need to put our troops some place to make peace and stability and protect human rights, it might rise to a larger order of things to be looking at Bujumbura than Haiti.

But some have suggested that the reason that we have sent the 82d to Haiti is to perhaps try to keep the lid on things there because we know that the Clinton administration has claimed Haiti as a foreign policy success story, and I know that they are anxious to try and keep proving that right up to the election, at least in this country.

I think that the time has come for the Clinton administration to try and reduce the candor gap with the American people on so many issues. But when it comes to foreign policy and when it comes to committing our troops who are actually in harm's way in a situation as explosive as the one in Port-au-Prince and Haiti today, it seems that they ought to be discussing it with Members of Congress who have legitimate oversight and legitimate concerns about how our taxpayers' dollars are spent, and legitimate concerns about how our foreign policy is executed and when it is executed.

So I am still hopeful that the administration will take advantage of this and the White House will share with the American people and the news networks what exactly is going on in Haiti and why we have more soldiers there.

WHO REALLY SPEAKS FOR THE CHILDREN?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. WHITE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITE. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Today I want to spend just a few minutes on a subject that is very important to me that is the subject of children.

I have four children and, as luck would have it, I have one of them here on the floor with me today. My 10-year-old daughter Emily is visiting Washington, DC, with me this week, and she has a 12-year-old sister, a 7-year-old sister and a 4-year-old brother, in our household children are very important. I hope they are very important to every Member of this body because just about everything we do here will have an impact on our country's children.

Mr. Speaker, I am new to this body. I have been here only a year and a half, but I have noticed there is a significant difference between our two parties when we talk about children.

The Democrats tend to talk about Government programs, Government spending, and Government bureaucrats, and I recognize that is an approach that they have taken. They think that is what it takes to raise a child, and I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, I disagree.

We have spent billions and billions and billions of dollars over the last 30

years on Government run welfare, and our problems have only gotten worse. I think it is time for Republicans and Democrats to call for a new approach or, Mr. Speaker, maybe it is a very old approach. This approach is called responsible parents. That is what it takes to raise a child in America today, responsible parents.

We should not be asking ourselves what should the Government do for children. What we should be asking is how can we help parents do more for their children? What children need is not more Government spending, it is compassion. It is help from their parents. That is something the Government cannot provide.

When we talk about children, Republicans begin with three principles: First, that the moral health of our Nation is at least as important as the economic health or the military health of our country. The fact is you cannot raise children in the proper environment when 12-year-olds are having babies, 15-year-olds are killing each other, 17-year-olds are dying of AIDS and 18-year-olds are graduating with diplomas that they cannot read. If we are going to take care of our children, we have to restore the moral health of our country.

Second, it is results, not rhetoric, that count. Anyone can sound compassionate. Anyone can say what people want to hear. But we have got to go out there and do things that will actually help our children.

Third, we really have to look ourselves in the mirror and admit to ourselves and to the American people that the system we have in place right now is a failure. We have spent billions and billions of dollars over the past 30 years on a system that has not worked, and it is time to try something new.

Mr. Speaker, 30 years ago the Government started out with the best intentions but instead of solving the problem the Government created a welfare trap in this country. We have trapped a generation of Americans on Government assistance. We have deprived them of hope, of opportunity, and in many cases we have destroyed the lives of many precious children.

Take a look at what is happening in our cities. You will see a generation that is fed on food stamps, but starved on nurturing and hope and parental care. You will see second graders who do not know their ABC's, fourth graders who cannot add or subtract. You will see sixth graders who do not know the number of inches in a foot because they have never seen a ruler.

Yet every year, as we have done for the past 30 years, the Government spends more money on programs because it thinks that is the compassionate way to help people. Instead of helping people, Government in expanding the welfare trap from one community to another, from one child to another, from one generation to another. The welfare trap and Government spending makes us think we have done