

General Davis may be best known as a recipient of the Medal of Honor while serving as a Battalion Commander during the Korean War, he first saw action in some of the most brutal fighting of World War II. He was part of the Marine forces that participated in the capture and defense of Guadalcanal and the Eastern New Guinea and Cape Gloucester campaigns.

While commanding the 1st Marine Division of the 1st Battalion in September of 1944, then Major Davis was wounded during the first hour of the landing operations. He refused to leave his men and continued to direct the Battalion in establishing defense positions and gaining control of the island. For his actions, Major Davis was awarded the Purple Heart and the Navy Cross.

As a Lieutenant Colonel in Korea from 1950 to 1951, General Davis earned the nation's highest decoration for heroism during the 1st Marine Division's historic fight to break out of the Chosin Reservoir Area. Against overwhelming odds, he led his Battalion in a four-day battle which saved a Marine rifle company and opened a mountain pass for the escape of two trapped Marine regiments. President Harry Truman presented Colonel Davis with the Medal of Honor in ceremonies at the White House on November 24, 1952.

In 1968, then Major General Ray Davis was named Deputy Commanding General of forces in his third and final conflict—the Vietnam War. During that tour, General Davis was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal—the first of two such medals he received. In 1971, General Davis was nominated by the President and confirmed by the United States Senate as the Assistant Commandant of the United States Marine Corps. He served in this position until his retirement in 1972.

In addition to the Medal of Honor, two Distinguished Service Medals, the Navy Cross and Purple Heart, General Davis was awarded two Silver Stars, two Legions of Merit, six Bronze Stars and many other awards from allied governments. Additionally, the forces in which he served received five Presidential Unit Citations, three Navy Unit Commendations and 15 Battle Stars.

After 33 years of traveling the world, seeing action in three wars and serving as one of the nation's highest military officers, Ray Davis could have settled into a comfortable retirement on his farm here in Georgia. But this was not the way for Ray Davis—a man of life-long action and deep commitment to serving others.

Let me quote General Davis on leaving the Marines: "As for retirement being difficult, I had an ideal transition in that I was retired from the Corps at 10 o'clock in the morning in Washington, and I was in my Atlanta office at 2 o'clock that afternoon in charge of the whole state of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce." Ray Davis had returned home as Executive Vice President for one of the premier business organizations in Georgia.

General Davis went on to lead the Georgia Chamber through an exciting time of growth in our state. He later left the Chamber to become President of RGMW, a family-owned land development corporation. General Davis also gave time to activities that are close to his heart. He has served as a trustee in the Valley Forge Military Academy, Chairman of the Trustees for the Marine Military Academy and on the Board of Visitors for Berry College. He was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board and he is active in many Marine Corps organizations.

Today, General Davis and his wife of over 50 years, Knox, live in Rockdale County. They enjoy traveling and staying active in the many organizations in which General Davis still serves. They also enjoy having

more time for their three children, Raymond Jr., Gordon and Willa, and their grandchildren. Tonight I have touched on the highlights of the extraordinary life and career of General Davis. For more details on this incredible man, I would encourage you to read "The Story of Ray Davis." In fact, we may be able to prevail on the General to autograph copies of his book this evening.

In closing, I want to leave you with a quote from Army General Creighton W. Abrams Jr., commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, to Marine Commandant General Leonard F. Chapman Jr. General Abrams said of Ray Davis, ". . . of the 50 or so division commanders I have known in Vietnam, General Davis has no peer. He's the best."

Ray Davis truly does represent the best of American society—soldier, scholar, a man of deeply held beliefs and commitments, and a devoted husband and father. Words cannot express how proud and honored I am to know General Ray Davis. Ladies and gentlemen, I give you a true American hero—General Raymond G. Davis.

IN OPPOSITION TO VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN—MARKING  
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 17, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my abhorrence to all forms of violence against women and to speak out in support of International Women's Day. With many of our colleagues here in this body, I have worked to foster respect for civil rights here at home and human rights abroad.

In connection with the celebration of International Women's Day, Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues those justice seekers who are beginning to expose the roots of injustice, who are bringing to our attention human beings denied their uniqueness and their personhood. Our task as advocates for human rights is not only to continue the pursuit of justice, but also to realize that as we make progress, we must release ourselves from ignorance and biases that allow us to overlook some atrocities but not others. In this regard, Mr. Speaker, we must affirm that the rights of women are the rights of all individuals. I add my voice to that of the United Nations' World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, 1993, which proclaims, "Women's rights are human rights."

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, women face a triple threat to their human rights. They are victimized by the construction of gender in their society. They are victimized by gender-based violence. And they are discriminated against by the structures of justice. Today, we must take action by properly addressing human rights violations against women. We must recognize gender-based violence in its various forms, and we must recognize these violent acts as human rights violations including, among others, sexual trafficking, economic discrimination, female genital mutilation, domestic violence, and rape.

These crimes against humanity are compounded by many victims' justifiable fear that their suffering will be disclaimed, that their suffering will be thrown out as invalid. Human rights violations against women are under-reported and under-emphasized. We must be

certain, Mr. Speaker, that violence against women is no longer silenced.

One of the most repugnant ways in which gender-based constructs discriminate against women, Mr. Speaker, is the trafficking of women and girls. They are reduced to mere economic sexual value to be sold and bartered. In the disturbing realm of sexual trafficking, women are forced into prostitution and coerced into marriage; they are often sold into bondage, where they are tortured and face degrading treatment as well as sexually transmitted diseases. Trafficking in women occurs across some well-patrolled international borders, and it is no coincidence that in many countries the institutions of justice, including the police, condone and profit from the trade in women.

In Thailand, there is a flourishing trade in Burmese women and girls; in India, the same trafficking occurs with Nepali women and girls. Bangladeshi women are lured to Pakistan by promises of a better life or abducted from their homes; they are then sold in clandestine settings to brothels where pimps threaten them with their illegal immigrant status and then denounce them for having sex outside of marriage.

Mr. Speaker, women are often subjected to gender-based economic discrimination and degradation because some states fail to recognize them as individuals outside of their material value. Economic discrimination against women makes them particularly vulnerable to harassment and abuse. Women are now increasingly important to the economies of most countries, but at the same time, many countries neglect women's rights as laborers. Women in the workplace are exploited and abused in a number of ways relating specifically to their sex.

As the majority of workers in the Maquiladoras, the export-processing factories along the U.S.-Mexico border, women must engage in a gender-specific fight to gain equal protection in the labor market. Most women who work in Maquiladoras do so because they are less well-educated and lack opportunities to gain necessary qualifications for other jobs. As a condition of employment, women applicants are routinely required to give urine samples for pregnancy tests. If a worker becomes pregnant and this is discovered by her boss, she is frequently forced to resign. Female workers may be harassed and mistreated, given more physically difficult tasks, and often forced to stand while working.

Furthermore, when a Mexican woman is a victim of sex discrimination, she has few avenues of legal redress. The Mexican justice system fails to protect women's reproductive health. The economic disincentive of regulating the manufacturing sector, which is the excuse given for failing to take action to protect women, is a poor excuse for failing to act.

Sexual discrimination in the workplace is reinforced by the lack of economic opportunity for women in many countries. Fear of losing a job reinforces a woman's inability to seek redress of her grievances. These acts of abuse are intolerable as women are forced into an outrageous choice between their legitimate human rights and their jobs.

In time of war or periods of social unrest, Mr. Speaker, violence toward women is intensified. As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I stepped forward with the horrifying story of the treatment of women

and children in Uganda during the recent conflict there. Girls and women in Uganda are traded back and forth, bartered as wives. Their allocation is part of a dehumanizing reward system for male soldiers. This crime addresses a theme of ownership which precludes women's sexual rights and brings to light the brutalization of Ugandan women. Rape within "marriage" is not construed as a crime in Uganda, or for that matter, in many countries which consistently violate women's rights. When intra-marriage rape is condoned within a society, this neglect is one of several factors leading to a normalization of domestic violence.

Sexual discrimination and power are especially apparent in Uganda as girls who are forcibly married are required to cook for the soldiers as they are on the move and are severely beaten or killed should they not cook quickly enough. Both girls and boys are forced to kill other children who have not performed their tasks to a sufficient level. Captive boys are often forced to sleep with captive girls, and this sexual indoctrination has terrible ramifications for future sexual violence. The nightmare in Uganda demonstrates the importance of taking into account the sexual specificity of violence. We should recognize how sexual violence harms both girls and boys, women and men.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most horrible examples of gender-based violence against women and children is female genital mutilation (FGM). FGM refers to either the removal of certain parts of the female genitalia or all of it. FGM is a crime against humanity—it violates a woman's fundamental right to a healthy life. Nearly 135 million girls and women around the world have undergone FGM, and it continues at an astounding rate of approximately 6,000 incidents per day. It is practiced extensively in Africa, in the Middle East, and among many immigrant communities in parts of Asia and the Pacific.

FGM is an extremely painful and even dangerous procedure which scars women both physically and mentally for life. FGM is an example of how violence is connected to gender determination as a woman is often considered "incomplete" lest she undergo FGM. A woman is not treated as a specific individual, rather she is a sexual being whose sexuality, sexual appetite, and reproductive functions are supposedly controlled and limited through FGM. In the case of FGM, we are forced to deal with brutal cultural discrimination against women. Women who have undergone FGM have publicly come forward to present their stories of humiliation and pain.

Crimes specific to women, Mr. Speaker, often revolve around religious and cultural justifications that seem inevitable to discriminate against the female gender rather than the male. In Afghanistan, which has endured 18 years of armed conflict, we are witnessing a tragic situation in which thousands of women are literally prohibited from leaving their homes. They must be "invisible;" they are denied their humanity. Women are forced to wear a robe which completely covers their bodies, the *burqa* robe. Should women expose their ankles, they are accused of violating the Taliban, the interpretation of the Shari's (Islamic law) based upon the teaching of Islamic schools in Pakistan. The restrictions upon Afghani women are a shocking violation of human rights based upon culturally determined ideas of gender.

Mr. Speaker, we must not become desensitized to violence against women. It is the responsibility of every state to preserve the human rights of women and to protect them against violence. Violence against women is not a private matter. In far too many countries—unfortunately, including our own—it is a structural and system-wide violation of human rights of women. States that do not prevent and punish crimes of domestic violence are as guilty as the perpetrators of that violence. Inaction against domestic violence reinforces the denial of basic human rights.

Domestic or family violence is a commonplace occurrence in nearly every country in the world, and battered women are isolated from national systems of justice, as well as from community and family. Intimate partners are prosecuted less harshly than those who victimize strangers, and this pattern of neglect for women's rights is evident in many corners of the world. In Brazil, some courts still exonerate men accused of domestic violence if they acted "to defend their honor." South African justice officers do not wish to be involved in domestic violence; they consider it a "private" affair. Not only are women subjected to acts of violence, but they are also subjected to judicial establishments which systematically are involved in gender-specific violation of human rights.

Mr. Speaker, the harmful perceptions of domestic violence are magnified in the case of rape. Rape is widely portrayed as an individual act and a private crime of honor, not as the political use of violence. Since World War II, however, human rights organizations estimate that there have been one million women raped during wars. Rape in war has been obscured from public view by our assumptions about the hyper masculine nature of soldiering and of rape as a crime of sex rather than a crime of violence.

This past week, Dragoljub Kunarac, a former Bosnian Serb paramilitary commander, confessed that he had raped Muslim women in an international legal process before the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in The Hague. He is the first individual to plead guilty to rape as a war crime. The Hague is the first court of its kind to specifically list rape and other sexual offenses as war crimes. The international women's movement has seldom been so effective in alerting the world to crimes against women as it has been in calling to international attention the brutal use of rape during the armed conflict in Bosnia.

Rape is an especially under-reported and minimized assault on women. It is "the least condemned war crime; throughout history, the rape of hundreds of thousands of women and children in all regions of the world has been a bitter reality," according to the UN Special Rapporteur of Violence Against Women. We must not cease our efforts to identify gender-specific violence against women in such situations.

Rape has been used to brutalize, to dehumanize, and to humiliate civilian populations on ethnic, national, political, and religious grounds. Sexual violence was defined by many analysts as a genocidal act in the Yugoslavian conflict because it was perpetrated primarily by Bosnian-Serbs as a weapon in their effort to drive out the Muslim population. Some Muslims were told while being raped that they would bear Serbian children.

During the 1994 genocide in Africa, Hutu militia in Rwanda subjected the Tutsi minority

women to gender-based violence on a mass scale as they raped and sexually assaulted hundreds of thousands of women. In another instance of human rights violation, Pakistani soldiers committed ethnically-motivated mass rapes during the Bangladesh war for independence.

It is an outrage that rape is still categorized by many as a crime of honor and property as opposed to a crime against personal physical integrity. This misconception adds to the false notion that rape is a "lesser" crime in comparison to torture. Women are denied their individual humanity and instead perceived by the aggressor as a symbol of the enemy community that can be humiliated, violated, and eradicated.

This year we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), but we should not overlook the fact that the human rights of women were not specifically affirmed by the United Nations until 1993. Before this time, the gender-specific nature of many of the crimes against women were often ignored.

By recognizing that violence is often specific to gender and by acknowledging the ways in which violence relates to our conceptions of gender, we can illuminate the barriers that we must transcend to achieve equal rights for women. The pervasive forms of violence that are normalized and trivialized by culture and society must not be tolerated as we affirm the human rights of women on this International Day of Women.

Mr. Speaker, the rights of all humans are unalienable rights. We must stand firm in our belief that all—women, as well as men—have an individual right to dignity and that our own rights are not assured unless the human rights of all others on this planet are secure. I urge my colleagues to join me in this fight for human rights for all women.

I commend to my colleagues the words of Pastor Martin Niemoeller, who endured the horrors of Nazi Germany: "In Germany they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up."

Mr. Speaker, the violation of the human rights of any woman is the violation of the rights of all of us. As we mark International Women's Day, we must recommit ourselves to that struggle.

#### INTRODUCING THE COLLEGE TUITION REDUCTION AND INFORMATION ACT OF 1997

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 17, 1998

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the College Tuition Reduction and Information Act. Almost a year ago I, along with the Gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. GOODLING, and a bipartisan list of cosponsors, introduced the Cost of Higher Education Review Act of 1997. At that time, it was clear to