

report had been published at the time of his death on July 7, 1998.

A memorial library which will contain many of Red's books and papers will be established in Altamont, New York, at the home of a long time friend.

SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING  
MURDER OF MATTHEW SHEPARD

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to say that this Nation and the United States Congress cannot tolerate intolerance. Earlier this week, on October 15, Matthew Shepard, a gay University of Wyoming student who was pistol-whipped and lashed to a fence post in a vicious attack, died from his injuries without regaining consciousness. I want to express my condolences to Matthew's parents, Judy and Dennis, and to the entire Shepard family. This is another example of a hate crime.

This brutal attack against Mr. Shepard is not an uncharacteristic, once-in-a-lifetime manifestation of bitter hatred. Hopefully, we can see it for what it really is—merely the tip of the iceberg. This gruesome attack illustrates the prejudice and hatred that still exists in our society today. Just when you think America may be beginning to change its long-standing intolerant ways, a volcanic eruption of hatred and prejudice spews forth, and a man like Matthew Shepard is brutally attacked because of his sexual orientation.

The public outrage surrounding this brutal attack has motivated Representative CUBIN to introduce the Matthew Shepard Resolution. Although I agree that we as Members of Congress should express our outrage at the barbaric act of violence against Matthew Shepard, I hope that we can enact additional legislation which really focuses on the issue of hate crimes including those against gays and lesbians in our communities. I hope that this painful and devastating incident will motivate the Congress to pass H.R. 3081, the "Hate Crimes Prevention Act," which would expand Federal jurisdiction to reach serious and violent hate crimes. Under the bill, hate crimes that cause death or bodily injury because of prejudice can be investigated federally, regardless of whether the victim was exercising a federally protected right. This hate crime mirrors the hate crime that took place this summer in Jasper, Texas; the murder of James Byrd.

In fact, with each passing year we must endure hearing horrible tales of hate-related crimes. Working under the Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA), the FBI revealed that 8,759 hate crime incidents were reported to local authorities in 1996.

Over 1000 incidents of hate crimes were directed at gays and lesbians during 1996. From 1991 through 1996, the percentage of hate crimes related to sexual orientation increased from 8–11%. Hate crimes committed in recent years include intimidation, simple assault, aggravated assault, murder, and forcible rape.

Unfortunately, the FBI's statistics actually underestimate the sheer magnitude of the

hate crime crisis. Their figures are misleading because less than half of law enforcement agencies report hate crimes and only 1,150 record incidents. Moreover, organizations such as the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) note that law enforcement agencies covering more than 40% of the American population are not included in the FBI's statistics.

It would be unjust, however, to reduce the horrific reality of these attacks to mere numbers. Of the 8,579 hate crimes reported, each one represents an appalling and disturbing story such as the murder of Matthew Shepard.

In my own city of Houston, Texas, I listened in sorrow as I was told about the death of a gay man, Mr. Fred Mangione, who was stabbed 35 times by members of a neo-Nazi organization in January of 1996. Currently, there are Hate Crime Laws including sexual orientation on only 21 states and the District of Columbia. My home state of Texas seems unclear about these laws, and how to prosecute them, and there are 8 states where Hate Crime Legislation, whether racially or anti-homosexually motivated does not even exist.

Current law (18 U.S.C. 245) permits Federal prosecution of a hate crime only if the crime was motivated by bias based on race, religion, national origin, or color, and the assailant intended to prevent the victim from exercising a federally protected right. The Hate Crime Prevention Act which was introduced by Rep. SCHUMER and Rep. MCCOLLUM must be adopted by this Congress. This bill would amend current Federal law to include real or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability so that the FBI would be able to investigate and prosecute violent hate crimes against gays, lesbians, and bisexuals. Current law already allows investigation and prosecution on the basis of race, religion, national origin and color.

Each year, we endure hearing that 6 out of every 10 persons are physically attacked because of their race, bias against blacks accounting for 38% of the total. Gays and Lesbians of all ethnicities must also face the risk of attack and prejudice. We simply cannot tolerate the status quo; we cannot accept that our current situation is "the best that we can do." We rail against foreign nations such as China and deride them for their inhumane practices. Yet, how can we criticize them when similar acts occur on our own soil?

This Congress must send a clear message to the American people that we will not tolerate hate crimes anymore. In the year 1998, it is truly absurd that we must warn people of color, and you have a different sexual preference that is different from our own, to walk in groups because, in our society, it simply is far too dangerous to walk alone. We have endured far too many atrocities, and we have feared for our lives for long enough. We must work together and take a stand.

Congress has an opportunity to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act on suspension before we leave this Congress, without a committee vote. I call on the Republican leadership to act swiftly and decisively to end the bitter hatred that is rooted in our society. We cannot tolerate intolerance!

HONORING LIVESTOCK MAN OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Harris on being named "Livestock Man of the Year by the California State Chamber of Commerce. A longtime leader in the livestock and horse industry, John will be honored during "Cattlemans Day" at the fifty-fourth Grand National Rodeo, Horse and Stock Show.

John Harris is being honored for his extensive involvement in agriculture. He serves as the vice chairman of the Cattle PAC. In the past John has served as a member of the Operating Committee of the Beef Board, chairman of the California Beef Council and a board member of the California Cattlemans Association.

As a rancher John Harris heads one of the largest and most diverse farming operations in the Central Valley. Founded by his father Jack Harris in 1937, Harris Farms employs more than 1300 people. Harris Farms can feed more than 100,000 head of cattle at a time, as well as processes more than 200,000 head per year, from their well known Colinga location. Harris is also a leader in developing foreign markets for American beef. Harris Farms exports to many countries, particularly Japan.

Harris Farms is also active in breeding and racing thoroughbred horses. It has produced more than 20 stakes winners and produced four California champions.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John Harris as he is honored as Livestock Man of the Year by the California State Chamber of Commerce. John Harris has played a vital role in the business community and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in wishing him continued success in the future.

HATE CRIMES AND INDIVIDUAL  
RIGHTS

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 1998*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues in Congress as well as citizens everywhere an article authored by Richard Sincere, Jr., President of Gays and Lesbians for Individual Liberty. Mr. Sincere aptly describes how the very essence of hate crimes undermines a pillar of a free and just society; that is, equal treatment under the law irrespective of which particular group or groups with whom an individual associates. Ours is a republic based upon the rights of the individual.

[From the Houston Chronicle, Oct. 14, 1998]  
GAY STUDENT'S MURDER IS NO REASON TO  
MAKE BAD LAW

(By Richard E. Sincere, Jr.)

The wicked murder of Matthew Shepard by two thugs, assisted by two equally contemptible accomplices, has resurrected a debate about the need for hate-crime laws.

Shepard, an openly gay University of Wyoming student who had been widely praised for his talents, ambitions and personality,