

## HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the savage attacks of September 11 resulted in the deaths of more than 5,000 innocent victims. To add to this horror, the horror of terrorist strikes, acts of violence against Muslims and Arab-Americans increased dramatically throughout the United States since September 11.

The Council of American Islamic relations has received more than 300 reports of harassment and abuse committed against innocent Sikhs, Arabs, Indians, and people of Muslim faith.

Communities across the Nation are horrified by these brutal crimes: a threat to a turban-wearing Sikh in Connecticut, an attack of a woman on a Maryland college campus, rocks thrown through an open bedroom window in Roanoke, Virginia.

Hate crimes are not new to our country, but these are different. The victims of these hate crimes were children. The victim in Connecticut was a second grader. The woman was a teenager attacked by fellow young adults. And the child who barely missed being hit by a rock was only two years old.

Throughout the country, Muslim and other Arab-American children are fearful of attacks on the street, in their homes, and at their schools in reprisal for the terrorist strikes of September 11.

Muslim private schools have canceled classes. Parents are being asked to help patrol school yards, and according to the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, many parents have kept their children home from both public and private schools.

Although hate crimes have been on the decline recently, law enforcement officials and leaders in Arab-American and Muslim communities are preparing for more trouble because children are still being attacked by fellow classmates and schools are still being vandalized.

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In the past week, two Malaysian students at Indiana University were assaulted and an Afghan student in New York was attacked by fellow students. Only last month a threatening note found by a Palmdale, California, high school forced five Muslim-American students to stay home for their own safety.

No one in America should live in fear because of his or her ethnic background or religious affiliation. This is especially true for children. That is why it is clearer than ever before just how important it is to pass meaningful hate crimes legislation.

Children and their families are suffering as a result of the ignorance, fear and hate of others. We need to strengthen our existing laws to protect them against all hate crimes. We must send a message, especially to our chil-

dren, that hateful behavior is wrong and will not be tolerated.

Children must be given guidance to resolve conflicts peacefully, to build bridges across issues of difference. As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I worked to pass the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, ESEA, reauthorization, which includes funding for education and training programs, curricula and instructional materials to prevent crimes. We need to build on this education step because State governments and local police need vigorous tools to fight and prosecute hate crimes. Sadly, existing Federal law is inadequate.

That is why I am a strong supporter of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of the year 2001, sponsored by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS). That act will empower existing hate crime legislation by making it easier for Federal law enforcement to investigate and prosecute crimes motivated by race, by color, by religion and national origin, as well as gender, sexual orientation, and disability.

Cosponsored by 199 bipartisan Members of the House of Representatives, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act has, unfortunately, been cast aside by the Republican leadership. That is absolutely unacceptable. There could not be a better or more needed time to bring this legislation to the floor and to pass it. It will give Federal authorities the jurisdictional muscle they need to effectively prosecute hate crimes.

Parents and young adults need to be examples to our children. We need to show them how to deal with conflict, how to avoid hate crimes, and how much we disapprove of hate crimes. Teaching our children how to resolve issues of difference and broadening the scope of punishable hate crimes will ensure America's future by protecting our children.

After the attacks of September 11, innocent children must not be added to the long list of victims in our Nation.

#### HUMANITARIAN AND FOOD ASSISTANCE IN RESPONSE TO TERRORISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11 have been devastating to the country. The horrific attacks upon the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the subsequent anthrax attacks have shaken all of us deeply.

It is both appropriate and imperative that we respond swiftly and surely to those who have perpetrated these horrific deeds. We must not allow actions of terror against American citizens to be carried out without a response.

However, alongside our military response, we must implement our hu-

manitarian and diplomatic response where it shows our compassion and care for those citizens of developing worlds who have suffered greatly at the hands of autocrats and dictators who would keep them in fear. We must exert the same kind of energy and resources against poverty, hunger, and autocracy that we are appropriately exerting against terrorism. This allows us to eradicate the scourge of terror of the threat to American citizens and our interests nationally and internationally.

Fighting terror is not just a matter of eliminating military threats, as the President has appropriately said, but is also for eliminating the root of the desperation as well as the root of the fears and the misconceptions that are born out of a life without hope and a childhood without thoughts of a better tomorrow.

In short, as we fight this campaign against this awful terror that has been brought against us, we must strive to ensure that our humanitarian response is not seen as an afterthought or as secondary to our military and democratic success, but as an intricate part of our foreign policy.

I urge my colleagues who will soon be considering the conference bill of Foreign Operations to bear in mind the importance of strengthening our foreign assistance humanitarian response to terror alongside our military campaign, and to act to increase our commitment to fighting the scourge of terror, hunger, and poverty through foreign assistance which supports economic and political opportunities and encourages political stability, thereby strengthening American interests internationally.

This Foreign Operations budget contains many tools in the fight against terror. We must focus our assistance upon the most vulnerable populations of the world who bear the burden of terror and of dictatorship all over their countries.

Among other things, the foreign operations budget contains money for combating the infectious disease that has indeed engulfed and has ravaged developing countries across the world, that of AIDS and tuberculosis. It provides money for the United Nation's High Commission on Refugees, again an appropriate appropriation. It also funds our commitment for the World Food Program, which, in recent weeks, has been working against terrible odds, with millions of people starving in Afghanistan who, too, hate the Taliban just as much as we do. They do not have an opportunity for an average life or making decisions. These resources, indeed, would help us help them to have a better life.

I urge my colleagues today to consider the value of these important investments as they consider the resources of the Foreign Operations budget and to ratchet up, not reduce down, the fight against terrorism by increasing our financial commitment