

have used the help of the Federal Government.

That is the whole point of this. I personally changed my mind on this subject because of the murder of Matthew Shepard. Frankly, I was chagrined that more of my partisans were not at his vigil. I observed it in a hotel room on CNN in Oregon. I was disappointed that more of my folks weren't there.

Hatred doesn't care if you are a Republican or a Democrat. As Americans, we all ought to be willing to stand up and say: Gosh—at every level of government, local, State, and Federal—let us show up for work and prosecute these most heinous kinds of crimes and murders.

I know there are some good, faithful, religious people who believe they should oppose this law because of this one category—the category of sexual orientation. They believe that because of their faith and their religion they cannot support this. But I say you should support this not in spite of your faith, you ought to support it because of your faith.

The example that I find in the Scripture which is so compelling is that of Christ. When confronted with a woman who was about to be stoned because of adultery—he didn't endorse her lifestyle—he saved her life.

Should we do any less? I say to people of faith that I don't care how you pray. But if that story inspires you like it does me, because of your faith support this.

That reflects the best values of the human heart, and the highest values of the American people. We ought to say as a matter of law—law isn't a teacher, and, no, we can't enforce morality—but we can hold up the law and say this is what we believe.

The Ten Commandants are a great example of a law to the children of Israel. They didn't always obey. But it reflected their highest values and caused them to live up, in many cases, to the highest of ideals. We should not do any less.

I am proud to stand here as a supporter of this expansion of an old law that reflects our best values.

I call upon Republicans, Independents, and Democrats to understand the spirit behind what it is we are doing.

Since I have been a U.S. Senator, I have been privileged to serve on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Every time I leave the shores of this blessed land and confront conflicts in Europe, conflicts in Eurasia, and conflicts in Asia, I am astounded at the tribal angst and hatred that besets most parts of this world.

I thank God that we live in a land where we have two oceans, two centuries with two relatively peaceful neighbors, and a long time to avoid the development of these kinds of racial, cultural, and other kinds of differences that cause us to want to commit crime, violence, and murder against people because of their differences. That reflects the worst of humankind.

As a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, I have decried hate crimes—however you want to describe them—on many continents on this planet. As a Republican, I believe I cannot be silent about hate crimes committed at home. I think we all ought to step up to the high ideals that this law represents.

When I chaired the Subcommittee on Europe, we held a hearing about anti-Semitism. We were privileged to have Eli Wiesel come and speak to us. In that hearing, he said something about what motivates the kinds of angst and hatred that have beset the Jewish people for a millennia of time. I want to share with you his words.

He said to this committee:

To hate is to deny the other person's humanity. It is to see in "the other" a reason to inspire not pride, but disdain; not solidarity, but exclusion. It is to choose simplistic phraseology instead of ideas. It is to allow its carrier to feel stronger than "the other," and thus superior to "the other." The hater . . . is vain, arrogant. He believes that he alone possesses the key to truth and justice. He alone has God's ear.

This law that we will be privileged to vote on in a few days makes it clear that we include—that we not exclude—what are called hate crimes. Why wouldn't we extend them to other Americans because they are demonstrably more vulnerable?

Gays and lesbians—why wouldn't you extend the protection to them? Do you hate them? I don't.

I believe it is possible on a principled ground to oppose some things that the gay community wants. I am not for gay marriage. But when it comes to public safety, the dignity of a job, the right to have a roof over your head, how can we withhold our help because we don't share a lifestyle?

I withhold those judgments. I say we should help because we are Americans, and because we aspire to the highest ideals of our Constitution and the highest ideals of the religious traditions—as varied as they are—that we hold in this country.

We are privileged to live in a land where we separate church and state.

I have said to people who are opposed to my support of this law, if you want to talk about sin, then go with me to church. If you want to talk about public policy, let us go together to the Senate, and figure out how to protect all people, because that is what our Constitution provides for.

I say to folks on my side, this shouldn't be a Republican-Democrat issue. This is an issue about the heart. In is an issue entirely appropriate to take up in a time and in a war on terrorism. Whether terrorism comes from a bin Laden, or whether terrorism comes from a couple of murderers in Wyoming, it is terror, nonetheless, foreign and domestic.

Our Constitution calls upon us in its Preamble to provide for the common defense, and to ensure domestic tranquility. Hate crime laws, since their origin, have helped us to do that. It

hasn't stopped it. You can't legislate people to change their hearts. But you can help them to by putting up the law, and saying these are our highest values. We will enforce them with the force of law. By holding them up and setting the example, we can help change hearts and minds.

While this law to many is just symbolism, I tell you it can become substantive, if we all show up for work and live up to our best ideals and not fall to the lowest of traits of humankind.

I call upon all our colleagues to support this legislation. Let's do it with an enormous majority, and let's do it regardless of party affiliation. Let's do it because with all of these victims, we share the common thread that we are Americans.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### THE FBI REFORM ACT, THE TERRORIST BOMBING CONVENTION AND THE SUPPRESSION OF THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION ACT, THE ANTI-ATROCITY ALIEN DEPORTATION ACT AND THE MYCHAL JUDGE POLICE AND FIRE CHAPLAINS SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFIT ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak principally on behalf of four important pieces of legislation. Two have important implications for national security, a third would help keep war criminals and those who commit atrocities abroad out of our country and the fourth would add a degree of fairness for law enforcement victims of September 11. All have been cleared on the Democratic side of the aisle.

Three are being blocked by holds placed by anonymous Republican Senators. One has passed the Senate and is being held up by the Republican leadership in the House. I appeal, again, today to our Republican colleagues to stop holding these important bills hostage, remove your secret hold, or at least come forward and identify yourself and your concern so that we may debate and make bipartisan progress on these important legislative matters.

First is S. 1974, the FBI Reform Act, which I introduced with Senator