

tell a very different story. Clearly, there is much cause to worry about the safety of all individuals in prison.

Besides physical arrests, the legal regime governing religious groups is designed to repress religious activity. Through these laws and regulations, the government places religious groups in an untenable situation. The government seems to allow approved mosques to operate and permits Christian communities to exist in relative peace (if they do not attempt to proselytize indigenous groups not traditionally Christian). Otherwise, for other religious groups, obtaining official recognition is nearly impossible, and the real threat of government repression looms large.

The 1998 Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations law instituted registration requirements designed to make achieving official recognition next to impossible. The 1999 amendments to the criminal code increased the importance of registration, as individuals attending an unregistered group are potentially subject to three to five years imprisonment for belonging to an "illegal" group. Individuals caught attending meetings of "banned" religious communities risk up to 20 years imprisonment. Uzbek courts frequently hand down lengthy prison sentences for alleged participation in illegal or banned groups. In addition, the religion law bans religious free speech and private religious instruction, and only permits government approved clerics to wear religious dress.

In recent weeks, Uzbek authorities appear more willing to use these provisions to repress unwanted groups and silence dissent.

Most recently, on May 25th, Uzbek officials raided the Mir Protestant Church in the Karakalpakstan region in western Uzbekistan. The raid, justified because the church is unregistered, interrupted a service and recorded the names of individuals representing local nationalities, such as Kazakhs and Uzbeks. Authorities ordered individuals of those ethnic groups to appear in court to explain their participation. While the court did not impose a fine, in a similar case in the same region, a court did fine four members of the New Life Church for violating the law on religious organizations.

Similarly, due to an inability to register, the small Christian community in Muinak has been denied permission to meet. According to Keston News Service, church members are now forced to meet in secret. Furthermore, the leaders of the Jehovah's Witnesses in the town of Bukhara could be sentenced to five years in jail for leading an "illegal" religious service, as their community is unregistered. In addition, in May a Tashkent court found a Jehovah's Witness guilty and fined him for illegal religious teaching when he was caught praying at a friend's funeral.

Even more alarming was the request by the Uzbek Committee for Religious Affairs that Protestant groups stop preaching the Uzbek language, the country's official language.

Mr. Speaker, the overall situation for religious freedom, and human rights generally, in Uzbekistan is bleak. Despite US involvement in the region, the recent increase of government efforts to suppress unrecognized religious groups is deeply troubling. Consequently, I urge the Uzbek Government to honor its commitments as a participating State in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

WILLIAM F. GOODLING EVEN
START FAMILY LITERACY PRO-
GRAM

HON. SUSAN DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer a bill today that will support the learning opportunities of our most vulnerable children by supporting their literacy training from their very earliest days until they are in school.

These are children of families who qualify for Even Start because they are low socioeconomic families who may also be English learners.

Without the existing William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Program, these children would arrive for their first day of school without the literacy skills to compete at that starting line. Even those who were able to get a scarce place in the Head Start program, would find that, hard as they worked through their school years, they were unlikely ever to catch up.

The population served by Even Start generally has low levels of education, with 86 percent of parents not having completed high school upon entering the program (compared to about 27 percent of Head Start parents). Eighty percent of participants have a family income below \$15,000 and over 40 percent have income below \$6,000. This is a high need population.

What the program offers is both literacy-training classes for the children and also family literacy programs for the parents. Children participating in Even Start are provided with age-appropriate educational services to ensure that they will achieve at a level similar to that of their peers. Liaison advisors work with each family to promote strong literacy support experiences, to help parents learn ways they can develop their own English literacy skills, and to provide support groups for parents to share the challenges and skills of parenting.

Adults in these family literacy programs tend to participate longer than those in regular adult education programs because of the benefits family literacy programs provide to their children. They see benefits such as improved literacy skills, reduced dependency on federal/state assistance programs, and enhanced employment opportunities. Most importantly, they are empowered to be their child's first and most important teacher.

Nationally, Even Start funds approximately 1,400 programs and serves approximately 50,000 families.

This bill will set aside funding to establish nationwide programs to assist in the training of program directors and facilitators in research-based literacy training skills. Because of new legislation, particularly the new qualifications for personnel, the performance objectives, and the new "scientifically-based reading research" requirement for instructional programs, local Even Start programs need this type of assistance.

Additionally, I have requested an evaluation to provide a longitudinal look at the achievement of children who have been assisted by the program.

When I have visited Even Start classes for children and for their parents, it is over-

whelming to hear their expressions of appreciation for the program and its leaders. Adults expressed amazement at the change in their children's feeling about reading and learning when they made reading together a regular part of their day. One mother told me how she thought she couldn't help her five year old with reading, but, thanks to the program, she realized that it was good for them to read together and help each other with the words each didn't know.

President Bush has declared that an additional step in his efforts to reform education will be to prod parents, day-care centers and preschools to teach more skills to children before they get to kindergarten. Even Start provides just such a program for parents to develop the literacy skills enabling them to perform this task.

All children deserve an even start. This bill will assure that they have well-trained facilitators to give their families the skills to compete fairly at the starting line.

IN HONOR OF DANIEL H. CASE III

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Daniel H. Case III, who died peacefully at his home, surrounded by his loved ones, early on June 26th. Dan was a talented businessman, a lifelong scholar, and a devoted father and husband; I was proud to call him my friend. His passing leaves a great void in our lives.

Dan was only 44 years old. He was compassionate, but cancer is not. It strikes tragically, without warning or reason. His future was staggeringly full of possibility, and I am so saddened to think of how much more Dan had to experience and give.

Dan was a brilliant man. He was a top graduate of Princeton University and a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. We marveled at his intelligence, his insight, and his ability to see problems in new ways. His mind was always the mind of a scholar, deeply fascinated by the complexity of finance and economics. He possessed a sharp and subtle intellect that was uniquely suited to business but never confined by it.

Dan was a star in the business world, rising to become one of the most important business leaders in the nation. As Chairman and CEO of Hambrecht & Quist during the height of the new technology boom, Dan helped to finance hundreds of companies, including Genentech, Netscape, Adobe, and other leaders in the high technology field. Under his leadership, Hambrecht & Quist grew to become a powerful financial player, providing resources and guidance for emerging companies in a wide range of technology areas. In 1999, Dan presided over Hambrecht & Quist when it was acquired by JPMorgan Chase. After the merger, Dan continued to advise and fund emerging companies.

Dan's intelligence was only surpassed by his character. His friends and family respected him for his foresight and genius but loved him for his kindness and modesty. He was a caring husband, father, son, and brother. He gave back to the community in countless