

This has been done in the sincerest belief that a policy of peace, trade, and friendship with all nations is far superior in all respects to a policy of war, protectionism, and confrontation. But in the Congress I find, with regards to foreign affairs, no interest in following the precepts of the Constitution and the advice of our early Presidents.

Interventionism, internationalism, inflationism, protectionism, jingoism and bellicosity are much more popular in our Nation's capital than a policy of restraint.

I have heard all the arguments on why we must immediately invade and occupy Iraq and have observed that there are only a few hardy souls left in the Congress who are trying to stop this needless, senseless, and dangerous war. They have adequately refuted every one of the excuses for this war of aggression; but, obviously, either no one listens, or the unspoken motives for this invasion silence those tempted to dissent.

But the tragic and most irresponsible excuse for the war rhetoric is now emerging in the political discourse. We now hear rumblings that the vote is all about politics, the November elections, and the control of the U.S. Congress, that is, the main concern is political power.

Can one imagine delaying the declaration of war against Japan after Pearl Harbor for political reasons? Or can one imagine forcing a vote on the issue of war before an election for political gain? Can anyone believe there are those who would foment war rhetoric for political gain at the expense of those who are called to fight and might even die if the war does not go as planned?

I do not want to believe it is possible, but rumors are rampant that looking weak on the war issue is considered to be unpatriotic and a risky political position to take before the November elections. Taking pleasure in the fact that this might place many politicians in a difficult position is a sobering thought indeed.

There is a bit of irony over all of this political posturing on a vote to condone a war of aggression and force some Members into a tough vote. Guess what, contrary to conventional wisdom, war is never politically beneficial to the politicians who promote it.

Presidents Wilson and Roosevelt were reelected by promising to stay out of war. Remember, the party in power during the Korean War was routed in 1952 by a general who promised to stop the bloodshed. Vietnam, which started with overwhelming support and hype and jingoistic fervor, ended President Johnson's political career in disgrace and humiliation. The most significant plight on the short term of President Kennedy was his effort at regime change in Cuba and the fate he met at the Bay of Pigs. Even Persian Gulf War 1, thought at the time to be a tremendous victory, with its aftermath still lingering, did not serve

President Bush, Sr.'s reelection efforts in 1992.

War is not politically beneficial for two reasons: innocent people die, and the economy is always damaged. These two things, after the dust settles from the hype and the propaganda, always make the people unhappy. The euphoria associated with the dreams of grandiose and painless victories is replaced by the stark reality of death, destruction, and economic pain. Instead of euphoria, we end up with heartache as we did after the Bay of Pigs, Korea, Vietnam, Somalia, and Lebanon.

Since no one wants to hear anymore of morality and constitutionality and justice, possibly some will listen to the politics of war, since that is what drives so many. A token victory at the polls this fall by using a vote on the war as a lever will be to little avail. It may not even work in the short run. Surely, history shows that war is never a winner, especially when the people who have to pay, fight, and die for it come to realize that the war was not even necessary and had nothing to do with national security or fighting for freedom, but was promoted by special interests who stood to gain from taking over a sovereign country.

Mr. Speaker, peace is always superior to war; it is a political winner.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### GROWING CONCERN OF CHILD MODELING ON THE INTERNET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue that is of prime importance, I hope, to many American families and their children; and it is as a member of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children that I rise today, because I have introduced legislation that deals with a growing concern of child modeling on the Internet.

What occurs is that young girls, 10, 12, 13 years old, are encouraged by their parents and aided and abetted by individuals to display themselves on the Internet for viewership, if you will, people who pay a fee, a monthly fee in order to view the site. I am not going to mention the names of the sites, because I do not want to encourage anybody to go, but to understand the gravity of the situation we are facing. The girls initially pose in not very suggestive ways. They may be appearing next to a horse; they may be outside in their bathing suit; they may be holding a tennis racket. As time goes on, they

are encouraged to pose more provocatively for their viewers. They are asked to expose themselves, they are asked to wear things like belly dancing outfits, they are asked to emulate an activity that is highly inappropriate for somebody their age. Many of these parents are deceived into thinking that the person witnessing their child on the Internet is another young person, a young girl or boy who is taking part in this little modeling expedition and encouraging their children or their friend to continue their activities as a child model.

What we found out through investigation at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is that often, the people that are paying \$19 a month to view these sites are pedophiles. They are often people who are depraved and who are looking at 11- and 12-year-old girls, and they are e-mailing each other back and forth saying, why do you not do this or pose like this. It is such a serious problem that I have designed legislation that I hope will answer some of the concerns.

Today on John Walsh's show we talked for an hour about this very topic, and Mr. WALSH had on two mothers, two daughters, and two of the promoters of these Web sites in order for us all to hear from them why they thought this was an appropriate and legitimate act for their child to pursue. Oftentimes they said it was to raise money for the child's college, even though one of the girls on the show quit school and was now being home schooled because she said she had asthma and could not conduct the hard work of school because of her condition. Nonetheless, she would find time in her day to be a child model. What we heard was startling, that they would allow their child to come into contact of people of such ill repute.

Now, again, I urge people to listen to what I am saying. I am not suggesting that young girls cannot be models, and I am not suggesting that there is not an appropriate place in commerce for young people to display their talents; but what we are finding on these particular Web sites, and it was first brought to my attention by a local NBC affiliate in Florida, in Miami, WTTB, they had done an investigation on somebody who actually happened to live in my district and they went on to find these cases where the girl was posing. All I want to suggest to people is first, to my colleagues, look at the legislation.

There has been much written about this legislation in the mainstream media. There has been much discussed, in fact, on national radio shows about this very topical issue and the legislation I have sponsored. We hope we can generate the debate in order to have parents hear our voices on what I hope is a clarion call for them to be very, very careful of what they subject their young children to.

If we look at almost every case of abduction, every case of rape, every instance where a child has gone missing,