

The individual I want to talk about is SSGT Phillip Jordan who was 42 years of age. He lived in Enfield with his wife Amanda and their 6-year-old son Tyler. His devotion to his country caused him to enlist in the Marines some 15 years ago as a private. Sergeant Jordan quickly advanced in the ranks to become a gunnery sergeant.

In 1991, he served in his first combat mission as a platoon leader in Operation Desert Storm, the first Persian Gulf war. After that conflict, Sergeant Jordan was based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina before becoming a drill sergeant at Parris Island, SC. For 3 years he taught countless new recruits how to become U.S. marines. Few were better suited for the task—friends, family and his marine colleagues referred to Sergeant Jordan as a “Marine’s Marine” for his can-do professional attitude. Just before he was shipped out in January to serve in the second Persian Gulf war, Sergeant Jordan was asked how he felt about once again being called to serve in combat. His response was: “This is what I do. That’s my job.”

He did that job with unflinching valor. Phillip Jordan was much more than just a fine marine. He was an incredibly fine, loving husband and remarkable father. Amanda Jordan described her husband as a caring and loving man who would go out of his way to do a favor for anyone at all. Each and every Sunday when he was home, he would make his family a homemade breakfast, right down to the flowers and fresh-squeezed orange juice. While stationed overseas, letters home always included two parts, one that began “Dear Amanda” and the other began “Dear Tyler” so that Tyler would have a letter of his own. Tyler certainly read those letters. He says he wants to grow up to be a marine some day, just like his father. There would be, perhaps, no more fitting tribute to a man who showed such tremendous dedication and devotion to his family and his Nation.

Phillip Jordan’s friends liked to call him “Gump,” after the movie *Forrest Gump*, for his eternal optimism. Tragically, in times of war, such optimism is not always rewarded. We, as a Nation, can be assured a victory in this conflict and any others which may challenge us down the line, because we know our fighting forces are made up of men and women who share Phillip Jordan’s sense of commitment and strength of character. We must always be mindful of the price they and their loved ones have paid for our freedom and our security, especially those like Phillip Jordan who paid the highest price of all.

Phillip Jordan was not the first casualty of this war and regrettably he will not be the last. It is important for all of us at this moment in time to reach out to the many families who have an empty chair at their dinner table because a father or mother, brother, sister, son, or daughter has

been called to serve their Nation in a distant land. These families need our support more now than ever.

Young Tyler Jordan was asked the other day about his dad. He said he was confident his father was the best marine in Heaven.

On behalf of the Senate, I thank Phillip Jordan for his service to America, and extend the deepest sympathies, not only of my family but also of all of the Senate, to express our condolences to Amanda and Tyler Jordan and to that family. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business.

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

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. In the last Congress Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred September 28, 2001 in New York, NY. A Yemeni man was badly beaten in the Bronx while working at his newsstand. Three local men allegedly yelled, “You Arabs get out of my neighborhood—we hate Arabs! This is war!” before dragging him outside and hitting him in the head with a bottle.

I believe that Government’s first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE 88TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today people around the world are pausing to remember and honor the victims of the Armenian genocide, which began 88 years ago in what is now Turkey. Be-

tween 1915 and 1923, one-and-a-half million Armenians—roughly 60 percent of the total Armenian population—were systematically murdered at the hands of agents of the Ottoman Empire, and hundreds of thousands more were forced to leave their homes. At that time, the word “genocide” had not yet entered our vocabulary. Now, 88 years later, this brutal episode of violence against the Armenian people is considered to have been the first, but unfortunately not the last, genocide of the 20th century.

Two decades later, in 1939, as Adolph Hitler, confident that history would exonerate him, prepared to send his armies into Poland with instructions to slaughter people indiscriminately and without mercy, he rhetorically asked his advisers: “Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?” That is precisely why I speak today, and every year on this date, to honor the Armenian people who lost their lives nearly a century ago and to remind the American people that the capacity for violence and hate is still prevalent in our world today.

Just in the last decade, we have seen systematic efforts to extinguish people because of their ethnicity in Bosnia, Rwanda, and Kosovo. Last year the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe noted a “sharp escalation” of anti-Semitic violence in Europe. Apparently, even lessons as searing and tragic as those of the Holocaust can be forgotten if we do not remain vigilant in our efforts to remember them.

Last year, as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa, I had the opportunity to visit the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, which is setting groundbreaking legal precedents with regard to the treatment of genocide. Through such tribunals, the international community should send a powerful message to would-be mass-murderers that such horrific acts will not go unpunished. Since I became a member of the U.S. Senate, I have striven to make protection of basic human rights, and accountability for such atrocities, cornerstones of U.S. foreign policy, and I will continue to do so as long as I am here.

Today, we remember the men, women and children who perished in the Armenian genocide, because to forget them, or any of the countless millions who have been murdered because of their ethnicity over the past century, would be to invite such tragic episodes to be repeated.

PROTECTING CHILDREN AGAINST CRIME ACT OF 2003

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, as you know, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and this week is National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. Furthermore, just last week, I joined with my friends and colleagues, Senators LINCOLN and SHELBY, in announcing our creation of a new, bipartisan Senate

Caucus on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children. And, just yesterday, I introduced the Protecting Children Against Crime Act of 2003, S.810.

I thank Senators GRASSLEY, HUTCHISON, and SHELBY for joining me as original cosponsors of the Protecting Children Against Crime Act of 2003. This important legislation would help protect our nation's children from the most heinous of criminals—child abductors, child pornographers, and others who would exploit or abuse children.

Every day, our local police and prosecutors are on the front line in the fight against the criminals who target children, and they deserve recognition for their hard work. However, the data suggest that law enforcement is fighting an uphill battle—child victimization remains a large, pervasive, and extremely troubling problem in the United States.

According to the Congressional Research Service, up to one in three girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused in this nation before they reach the age of 18. Many child molesters prey upon dozens of victims before they are reported to law enforcement. Furthermore, some child molesters evade detection for long periods because many children never report the abuse. In fact, Bureau of Justice Statistics suggests that between 60 percent and 80 percent of child molestations and 69 percent of sexual assaults are never reported to the police. Of those sexual assaults that are reported, 71 percent of the victims are children.

We also have a long way to go on behalf of missing children. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, in 2001, 840,279 persons—adults and juveniles—were reported missing and entered into the FBI's national crime computer. As many as 725,000 of those reported missing were juveniles. On average, 2,000 children per day were reported missing to law enforcement in 2001, according to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Most missing children are eventually returned safely to their parents, but a small group of them are victims of more predatory abductors. The average victim of abduction and murder is a "low risk" 11-year-old girl from a middle-class neighborhood with a stable family relationship who has initial contact with an abductor within one-quarter mile of her home—this is according to a report by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Washington State Attorney General's Office.

For all of these reasons, it is vitally important that Congress do everything in its power to support parents and law enforcement in their efforts to protect our nation's most vulnerable citizens. Enacting the Protecting Children Against Crime Act of 2003 would be a step in the right direction.

Among its major provisions, this legislation would eliminate the statute of limitations, under our federal criminal

code, for prosecuting certain sex crimes against children and child abduction offenses. This provision recognizes that victims of such crimes often do not come forward until years after the abuse, out of shame or a fear of further humiliation. It is important that a sexual predator still be held accountable once a sexual abuse victim courageously chooses to come forward.

In addition, this bill would call for those who produce or distribute child pornography to be included in the national sex offender registry. As stated by the United States Supreme Court more than two decades ago, child pornography "is intrinsically related to the sexual abuse of children." Families need to know when a child pornographer moves into the neighborhood.

To assist States in finding their missing and runaway children, our bill also would authorize a new, grants-to-States program that encourages technology enhancements in the States' Amber Alert Communications Plans. Similar language, authored by Congressman Mark Foley, already has passed the House of Representatives as part of the Child Abduction Prevention Act, H.R. 1104. This language builds on the national Amber Alert legislation authored by Senator HUTCHISON and passed by the Senate earlier this year. Under the bill I introduced yesterday, this new grant program would be authorized at \$5 million per year in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007.

Finally, our bill would require the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study for Congress on the feasibility of having Internet Service Providers monitor online traffic to detect child pornography sites. The study also would examine both the extent to which credit cards are used to facilitate the sale of online child pornography and options for encouraging greater reporting of such illicit transactions to law enforcement officials.

Our bill would help ensure that our children are protected from the most treacherous of criminals. This is a fight we need to win and a fight for which we must give our law enforcement officers every tool at our disposal. I urge my colleagues to support the enactment of S. 810.

THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL: UNITED AGAINST TERROR

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to talk to my colleagues in the Senate about the important relationship America has with our friends in Israel, and the crucial role that this relationship plays in the ongoing War on Terror.

As American and Coalition troops continue military operations to liberate the people of Iraq, it is important to recall that amidst all of the criticism in the world community for American actions, there has been at least one nation that has steadfastly

stood by our side since September 11 and even before.

That nation is the State of Israel.

Americans awoke fully to the realities of terrorism on that fateful morning in September, 2001. But for the children of Israel, acts of terrorism are an all too common occurrence. Israel long ago learned all too well about the true nature of the threat we face, and their assistance in combating that threat has been invaluable to the American people.

American support for Israel was strong even before September 11, but I believe it is even stronger now. It is strong in the Congress, in the White House, and throughout America.

Israel is our greatest friend in a very troubled region. This is as it should be; Israel has suffered greatly, in blood and treasure, and deserves strong American support. Israel has been an island of stability in a turbulent Middle Eastern sea.

That is why I have strongly supported economic and military aid to Israel, including the \$9 billion in loan guarantees and \$1 billion in FMF funds now pending before Congress as part of the supplemental spending bill to pay for the War on Terror. And that is why I have signed a letter to President Bush urging him to remain true to his vision for peace between Israel and the Palestinians as stated in his historic June 24, 2002, Rose Garden speech.

Since September 2000, when Yasser Arafat rejected the Camp David offer put forth by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak—and the subsequent, even more generous Taba offer backed by President Clinton that would have granted the Palestinians a sovereign state on 97 percent of the West Bank and Gaza, removed the majority of Israeli settlements, and allowed for Palestinian control over the Temple Mount—Israel has faced an onslaught of organized terrorism against its men, women and children.

The Dolphinarium disco, a Sbarro pizzeria, the Moment Café, a Passover seder—all were targets of homicide bombers sent by Palestinian terror groups who have been permitted to operate freely within Palestinian society by Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

I actually ate once at that pizzeria. In 1999, I visited Israel and spent a week there so I could better understand its history and events. On one of our last nights, my wife, Mary and I, along with our friends decided to eat out at that restaurant. To later then actually see a place with which you are familiar destroyed in a senseless act of violence really helps to put these chillingly serious matters in perspective.

It is a perspective that Israelis live with every day, and it is a perspective more and more Americans are coming to understand.

On the surface, these acts of terrorism are barbaric. But, on a deeper level, they also represent the utter failure of Arafat to live up to his commitment to Israel and the United States,