public office. Anyone who doesn't ponder hypothetical questions all the time is unfit for the task of governing. In fact, it's hard to see how any halfway-intelligent person can manage to avoid taking up hypothetical questions a dozen times a day.

But we can all name a few politicians we suspect are up to this challenge.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 3, PARTIAL–BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2003

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose all late term abortions, but when a mother's health is at risk, that decision should be made by a woman and her doctor, not by politicians in Washington, D.C. If there is one frivolous later term abortion, that's one too many. That's why I want to pass legislation that bans all late term abortion procedures, not just one. This bill is not a serious attempt to save babies. It is a cynical attempt to make political points. Do you know what? There is a dirty little secret about this bill that is starting to get out, and that secret is that this bill does not outlaw late-term abortions. Let me repeat that.

Under this bill, late-term abortions under Federal law, will still be perfectly legal. Why do I say that? Very simply, because this bill only outlaws one late-term abortion procedure, while allowing all others to remain perfectly legal. For 8 years, I have asked on this floor the supporters of this bill to explain why they did not want to put in this bill an outlaw of all late-term abortion procedures like I helped do in the Texas legislature 13 years ago.

I think probably the honest answer to that was given by Ralph Reed a number of years ago when he said, ''the partial-birth abortion bill is a silver political bullet.'' And I think the people in America who should truly be upset about this bill and the effort to pass it for 8 years, are not just the pro-choice people. It should be the genuine, decent pro-life people who in their own heart have been misled to believe that this bill would actually outlaw late-term abortions. It does not. And that is a dirty little secret that is starting to get out, even in the pro-life community.

In fact, let us go to a statement made just 2 weeks ago by Randall Terry, who is the founder of Operation Rescue, an ardently pro-life organization. This is what Mr. Terry, a pro-life citizen, said, ''This bill, if it becomes law, may not save one child's life.''

Yes, Mr. Speaker, the dirty little secret is getting out. There is another little secret that is getting out about this bill, and that is that it is absolutely, patently unconstitutional. So those who have pushed this bill have pushed a false promise on their pro-life constituents.

Why is it unconstitutional? It is as clear as the Supreme Court can say. When it puts a decision in italics, I think it is trying to make it a very clear point to those who would read it; but for those who cannot understand it, let me read Justice O'Conner's statement from the Stenberg v. Carhart decision in 2000, which outlawed a bill almost exactly like this.

''States may substantially regulate and even prescribe abortion, but any such regulation or prescription must,'' not maybe, ''must contain an exception for instances,'' and this was in italics, ''where it is necessary, in appropriate medical judgment, for the preservation of life or health of the mother.''

Well, guess what, unlike the constitutional bill I passed in the Texas legislature 17 years ago abolishing all late-term abortion procedures, but constitutional because we had a health exception, this bill refuses to have a health exception, even when the mother's health is at risk.

This bill is a false promise. It will harm good decent women in this country, and it should be defeated.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I was regrettably absent on October 7, 2003, and consequently missed recorded votes numbered 532, 533, 534. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'', ''nay'', and ''yea'' respectively on these votes.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING ALEX MACHASKEE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Alex Machaskee serves as the President and Publisher of The Plain Dealer; and

Whereas, Alex Machaskee has been a critical community partner through his tireless leadership helping to improve and promote the economy of Northeast Ohio; and

Whereas, Alex Machaskee has been recognized for his leadership and achievements in international business endeavors;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Alex Machaskee for being named ''International Business Executive of the Year.''

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DEBORAH SHIU-LAN JIN

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Deborah Jin and to submit for the RECORD two recent articles from the Colorado Daily and the Washington Post describing these accomplishments. Dr. Jin is one of eighteen scholars chosen as MacArthur fellows, awards granted annually by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. 4a

Deborah Shiu-lan Jin is a physicist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and a fellow at the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (JILA), a joint institute of NIST and the University of Colorado.

Dr. Jin used lasers and magnetic traps to identify a new quantum gas by cooling a vapor of fermions—one of the two basic types of quantum particles—to a temperature less than a millionth of a degree above absolute zero. Her discovery was named one of the top ten scientific advances of the year in 1999 by the journal Science. Dr. Jin is internationally recognized as a major force in the world of extremely low temperature physics.

I am proud of Dr. Jin, and I am proud of the institutions she represents. Dr. Jin is one of four University of Colorado-Boulder professors who have received the MacArthur fellowship since it began in 1981. Her colleagues at JILA include Dr. Eric Cornell of NIST and Dr. Carl Weiman of the University of Colorado, who created a new state of matter, the Bose-Einstein condensate, in 1995 and won a Nobel Prize for their discovery two years ago. Clearly, Colorado's excellent institutions make it possible for scientists to conduct their path-breaking research.

Every year the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation rewards a small group of exceptionally creative individuals by naming them MacArthur Fellows. The foundation gives fellowship awards to those individuals who are pursuing unique approaches to their fields of study and those taking intellectual, scientific, and cultural risks.

Clearly, these criteria describe NIST's awardee Dr. Jin, who has broken new ground in her field. Dr. Jin is an incredibly talented and driven scientist who is regarded with great esteem by her colleagues, one of whom predicted that Dr. Jin has what it takes to be one of the most innovative scientists of the century. I am certain that the foundation made an excellent choice in awarding Dr. Jin this prestigious fellowship. I am honored to represent such an exemplary individual.

[From the Colorado Daily, Oct. 7, 2003]

CU PROFESSOR SCOOPS THE GENIUS GRANT

(By Sarah-Jane Wilton)

Imagine being given a check for $500,000 and being told to go spend it however you choose, with no strings attached. For CU adjoint assistant professor Deborah Jin, winning a MacArthur fellowship means just that.

The announcement came Sunday that Jin is among the 18 elite winners of the 2003 award, which annually honors talented individuals who have had ''extraordinary originality and dedication from their creative pursuits'' and shown ''a market capacity for self-direction.''

The fellowship, commonly known as the ''genius grant,'' is awarded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and is intended to encourage people of outstanding talent to pursue their own creative, intellectual and professional inclinations.

Each awardee is presented with a ''no strings attached'' stipend of $500,000 paid out in quarterly installments over five years.

Jin, a physicist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), created a new quantum gas that was named one of the top-10 scientific advances of the year by the journal Science, in 1999.

With the assistance of graduate student Brian Demarco, Jin cooled a vapor of fermions—one of the two basic types of quantum particles, along with bosons—to a temperature less than a millionth of a degree