Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, as gasoline prices throughout the United States go from $2 a gallon and even towards $3 a gallon, I think it is instructive for this Congress to review the profits of the major oil companies even before this round of increases in the price of gas.

In 2000, the profit increases over the last year: Texaco, 473 percent increase in profit. Phillips Petroleum, 257 percent increase in profit. Conoco, 371 percent increase in profit. Chevron, 291 percent increase in profit. BP Amoco, 296 percent increase in profit.

I do not know of anyone in America who is getting a raise of a few hundred percent. The American people are struggling to survive and the oil companies are ripping them off. We need a windfall profits tax. We need to make sure that there is some balance brought back in this economy. It is time to go after the oil companies.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would think that America would want its leadership to make the right kind of statement to the world. I do not know why we have not been able to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999, and now 2000. The other body vigorously debated Senator Kennedy's legislation yesterday and today they vote. I think it is very important that today the Senate takes the first step to tell the world that America abhors hatred.

Just yesterday, I met with the relatives of James Byrd, Jr., and they told me that even today people are desecrating on his grave, trying to intimidate the community. Hate crimes are not individualized. It is a statement that says, We don't like you because you're different. Because you're African American, Hispanic, you're a woman, you are disabled, you are gay, you are different. Because you're Asian, you practice your religion differently.

Can America not come under the umbrella of the Statue of Liberty that encouraged all of us to come to this free land? It is important for us to stand up as legislators and denounce hatred in this Nation by voting for the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999 and 2000.

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