Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH)?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution, as amended.

The resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

AMENDMENT TO THE PREAMBLE OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the preamble.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment to the preamble offered by Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

Whereas on March 6, 2001, an explosion at the Fanglin elementary school in the Jianxi province of the People’s Republic of China, including to the parents and families of the 37 young children who lost their lives as a result of this dangerous and forced child labor; and

(2) expresses its gratitude to the Chinese and international journalists who reported the true cause of the explosion in response to the Chinese Communist Party’s original attempts to put forward an “authorized”, but false, version of the events.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment to the preamble offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

The amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I like to rise this evening and discuss a topic that is important to all of us, which is our Nation’s children.

Two months ago, I was in a truck stop and I saw a young man playing a video game. I did not think much about it, but I went up behind him and watched what he was doing. He was shooting a laser gun, but he was not shooting at targets. He was not shooting ducks. He was shooting people. Every time he hit one, an arm flew off and the blood spurted, or a head flew off and the blood spurted. I was really impressed by the violence of the game. This young man was about 10 years old. Nowhere on that game was any type of rating indicating that this was inappropriate for a young person.

As I saw that, I began to have a flashback to some of the school shootings we have had, and I realized that the United States currently is the most violent nation in the world for young people, with the highest homicide rate and the highest suicide rate of any nation in the civilized world. Our out-of-wedlock birthrate has risen from 5 percent in 1960 to 33 percent today. And so you say, what has happened here? Why has our culture unraveled in the way that it has?

I am sure we can point the finger at a great many different reasons and causes, but I would say one of the chief causes is the influence of violent, explicit material in the entertainment industry. Because, you see, the average child spends 25 hours a week watching movies, playing video games and listening to recorded music and probably spends about an hour or less talking to his or her parents. That 25 hours has a huge impact. Some of it is benign, but much of it is really pernicious and very harmful.

In September of 2000, the Federal Trade Commission prepared a report entitled “Marketing Violent Entertainment to Children.” This is what they found, and I quote:

“The pervasive and aggressive marketing of violent movies, music and...