

those who labor on a daily basis to put an end to this horrible violence.

While the devastating physical and emotional consequences of domestic violence have been well documented, less attention has been paid to the economic reasons women stay victim to their abusers. Far too many victims remain in abusive relationships because of their inability to financially support themselves and their children.

Lack of affordable childcare, inaccessibility to job training and healthcare programs, and low wages are a few of the obstacles women face when they wish to leave an abusive home. Those who are able to find employment often find it difficult, if not impossible, to keep a job because of the consequences of domestic abuse such as: lower productivity, reduced attendance, and the higher risk of insurance and healthcare costs to employers. In addition, employed victims of abuse live with the added fear of losing their job if they take time off from work to seek help for themselves and their families.

Unfortunately, current law does not specifically allow women to take leave from work to effectively deal with the abuse in their lives. Nor does the law often allow women who leave work as a result of domestic violence to collect unemployment compensation.

These realities faced by abused women often hinder their ability to seek or maintain employment. As a result, far too many women are left with the terrifying choice of staying with their abusers or becoming homeless, often with their children. In fact, the Downtown Women's Center of Los Angeles recently conducted a needs assessment among 400 homeless women in Los Angeles. Of those interviewed, 58.5 percent had experienced domestic violence in their lifetime, and 39.5 percent had experienced domestic violence as recently as the previous year.

To address the needs of victims of abuse, I have introduced the Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act in the House of Representatives. My legislation is specifically designed to help victims of domestic violence retain their employment and financial independence, by ensuring that they are allowed to take time off from work to make necessary court appearances, seek legal assistance, contact law enforcement officials or make alternative housing arrangements, without the fear of being fired or demoted. Further, to ensure victims can retain the financial independence necessary to leave their abusers and avoid having to rely on welfare or become homeless, my bill requires states to provide unemployment benefits to women who are forced to leave work as a result of domestic violence. This legislation currently has the bipartisan support of 106 of my colleagues in Congress.

Obviously, we cannot legislate the problem of domestic violence away. An important step we can take, however, is to create a system that gives women a fighting chance to remove themselves and their children from abusive environments. As a nation, we must develop and implement laws that provide the support necessary to ensure the safety and security of our most vulnerable citizens. No woman should ever have to choose between physical safety or financial security for herself or her family.

TRIBUTE TO LYNN SWANN ON HIS
ENSHRINEMENT IN THE NA-
TIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
HALL OF FAME

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to San Mateo County native and former Pittsburgh Steeler, Lynn Swann, on his recent induction into the National Football League Hall of Fame. Enshrinement in the NFL Hall of Fame is the greatest honor of any football player's career and is only bestowed upon the most deserving athletes. Lynn is unequivocally one of the greatest wide receivers ever to play professional football and is most deserving of this honor.

As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, Lynn's NFL career spanned nine years, and included four Super Bowl victories and three Pro Bowl appearances. During his career, Lynn caught 364 passes for a total of 5,462 yards and 51 touchdowns. Known for his acrobatic and graceful catches, he saved his best performances for the big games, making key plays in Super Bowls IX, X, XIII, and XIV.

Mr. Speaker, Lynn's football success got off to a spectacular start at Junipero Serra High School in San Mateo, California, in my Congressional district. He became a member of the Padres Varsity Squad as a Freshman where he was coached by Coach Jesse Freitas, Sr. Lynn was instrumental in Serra High School's 1967 and 1969 West Catholic Athletic League titles. After graduating from high school, Lynn attended the University of Southern California where his gridiron accomplishments brought him honors and recognition. He graduated with a degree in Public Relations in 1974.

Lynn Swann was the number one draft pick by the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1974, and his impact on the team was felt in Pittsburgh immediately. During his rookie season Lynn immediately established himself as a fierce competitor. Although he suffered a concussion in the 1975 AFC Championship Game, he recovered in time for the Super Bowl two weeks later, giving a MVP performance. During Super Bowl XIII, Lynn had yet another extraordinary performance, catching seven passes and the game winning touchdown.

Mr. Speaker, Lynn has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognition during his career. He was named an All-American player at USC in 1974, and All-Pro recognitions in 1976, 1978, and 1979. He was named the Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl X in 1976. Lynn received the prestigious NAACP image award in 1981. He is a member of the Steelers Hall of Fame Team of the 1970's Decade, and the Silver Anniversary Super Bowl All-Time Team. He is also an inductee to the San Mateo County Sports Hall of Fame, and will be inducted into the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame in 2002.

Much of Lynn's success in life, both on and off the field, can be traced directly to his parents, Mildred and Willie Swann, who continue to work and maintain their residence in my district. His parents taught him the value of

hard work, and more importantly, how to carry himself with class and dignity. Today, Lynn thanks his mother for urging him go to Serra High School and teaching him the value of a good education.

Since his football career ended in 1982, Lynn Swann has been involved in numerous charitable involvements. These included his work as the National Spokesperson for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Additionally, he created the Lynn Swann Youth Scholarship Fund in association with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School. As you may know, Mr. Speaker, Lynn was one of the first wide receivers to practice ballet in preparation for football, a practice followed by numerous professional football players to this day. Lynn pioneered this unique "cross training" method after recognizing that the gracefulness of ballet would be a considerable asset to a wide receiver in the National Football League. In 1981, he created the Lynn Swann Youth Scholarship Fund in Association with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre school, which has benefitted hundreds of talented students. Lynn's commitment to the Ballet School continues to this day, by contributing a portion of the sales of his number 88 Pittsburgh Steelers jersey, to aid the Pittsburgh Ballet, as well as the Boys and Girls Club of Pittsburgh.

Throughout his distinguished career both on and off the field, Lynn Swann has never forgotten nor neglected his close personal ties to San Mateo. He is, indeed, an icon and role model for our young people. Lynn Swann is an extraordinary athlete who is truly deserving of induction into the National Football League Hall of Fame. He has given selflessly of his time to worthy causes. Lynn's character can best be summed up by his former High School history teacher and coach, John Carboni, who, when asked about his former student, chose not to comment on his athletic ability, but rather on his personality. As Mr. Carboni stated, "When it comes to a classy athlete to come out of Serra, Lynn Swann rules the roost."

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Lynn Swann, an excellent athlete on his enshrinement in the National Football Hall of Fame.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALF EVERS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the achievements and tremendous life work of a dear friend of mine, Mr. Alf Evers of Shady, New York. I have known Alf for more than thirty years, working with him on environmental and other issues in my district. Alf Evers is the pre-eminent historian of the Catskill Region of New York State whose writing and passion for storytelling have become part of the rich history of our area. As part of this year's New York History Month, I am proud to join in saluting Alf's significant contributions to furthering New York history.

Spanning more than seven decades, Alf Evers' professional writing career continues today at age ninety-six as Alf completes a history of Kingston, New York. He is best known

for his ambitious histories, "The Catskills: From Wilderness to Woodstock" and "Woodstock: History of an American Town," as well as "In Catskill Country: Collected Essays on Mountain History, Life and Lore." Mr. Evers authored more than fifty children's books, which were illustrated by his wife, Helen. These books helped bring his deep interest in ecology and nature to young people. Alf also served as associate editor of the New York Folklore Quarterly and wrote articles for the New York Conservationist.

Over the years, Alf Evers' imagination and chronicling of the stories of the Catskills have inspired people to embrace a sense of place by bringing their history to life. An article from several years ago sums up the style of Alf's writings: "Local histories fall into two categories: useful, but unreadable, chronicles of train arrivals and departures or dates of deeds; or stories that set a reader down in a place and transform them into residents. Evers' work is of the latter category." Alf's writing and scholarship have truly set a high standard of excellence for regional history, which he has made accessible to generations of readers through his skillful and well-researched narratives.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to Alf for his tenacity and hard work in recording the stories of our past. I appreciate his commitment to landscape preservation, nature, and the arts. The wealth of knowledge that Alf has shared with readers and residents over many years has truly made him a national treasure, and I thank him for his great service.

INDIA FILES FAKE CRIMINAL CASE AGAINST BURNING PUNJAB WEBSITE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I was distressed to learn that the government of India, which calls itself "the world's largest democracy," has filed a criminal case against the website Burning Punjab, which reports news about the abuse of Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan by the Indian government. The website can be found at <http://www.burningpunjab.com/news.html>

The government made the case fit under Indian law by falsely claiming that Burning Punjab is "a newspaper published from Chandigarh." There is no newspaper published, just online news, and Burning Punjab uses services in the United States and Britain to publish its news. The case was filed by the Deputy Inspector General of the terrorist Central Reserve Police Force. Previously, viewing Burning Punjab had been prohibited in several states in northwest India, including Punjab, Delhi, and Chandigarh. This is clearly a case filed to harass Burning Punjab for reporting news the government does not like. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, but I fail to see the difference between this action by "the world's largest democracy" and the repression of the press in the most tyrannical dictatorships of the world.

If this is how India treats those who expose its corruption and brutality, it is no democracy.

We should support democracy in South Asia in the form of a free and fair plebiscite with international monitoring on the question of independence for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the other countries seeking their freedom from Indian. This will provide the opportunity for every one in the subcontinent to live in freedom, dignity, peace, and prosperity. That is the best way to promote stability in South Asia.

I would like to place an article from Burning Punjab on the complaint into the RECORD at this time.

HARASSMENT CONTINUES: FORGED CRIMINAL CASE FILED AGAINST "BURNING PUNJAB"

Jalandhar—A forged criminal case against web site Burning Punjab' has been filed in the Court of Judicial Magistrate Mohinder Singh deputed in Jalandhar Courts. The case referred Burning Punjab News' on-line web news as a newspaper' published from Chandigarh, just to cover the Burning Punjab staff under India Penal Code. One Lashkar Singh has filed the case: DIG of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) of Indian Hindu Regime.

It is pertinent to mention that Burning Punjab web site is aired through European and American based servers and satellites. It's registered address is located in United Kingdom but with a motive to harass human rights activists working for Burning Punjab web site, Indian Police have now manipulated forge case against them by alleging that Burning Punjab News is a daily newspaper published from Chandigarh. Whereas no such newspaper' published from Chandigarh.

A formal representation has been sent to Chief Justice of Supreme Court and the High Court, urging them to take initiative and prevent abusing human right activists and also legal process of the land.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we gather tonight to recognize this month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic violence against women remains an epidemic in the United States as well as around the world. A UNICEF study shows that up to half of the female population of the world becomes the victims of domestic violence. One in every two women is victimized!

In our own backyard, the statistics are unbelievable. According to a Department of Justice released on October 28, 2001, women in their mid-teens to mid-20's are three times as likely to be attacked by a significant other than an older women. However, middle-aged women between the ages of 35-49 are the most likely to be killed by an intimate partner than younger women. One in 10 girls killed between the ages of 12 and 15 dies at the hands of her boyfriend or significant other.

The Violence Against Women Act of 2000, signed by President Clinton on October 28, 2000, improves legal tools and programs addressing domestic violence, sexual assault,

and stalking. The Act also reauthorizes critical grant programs created by VAWA of 1994 and subsequent legislation, establishes new programs, and strengthens federal laws.

I am proud to say that Congress has recognized that women and children victims of domestic violence deserve enhanced protection.

But we must also take additional steps—we must continue to raise awareness. Socially, we must emphasize that women have choices. Traditional ideology has forced women to remain in dangerous and even fatal situations. Women are not the only one in a marriage responsible for its success. Stress, alcohol, problems at work, and unemployment does not justify the abuser's behavior. A woman's identity and worth is not based upon getting and keeping a man. An abuser's "lucid moments" from violence does not make him a "good man". Divorce is a viable alternative. And it's okay for family members to intervene and get help for the victims. Choices empower women to be strong and courageous enough to leave a bad situation and make a better life for themselves and their children.

We must also understand the reasons that compel abusers to carry on their outrageous behavior. The abuser continues his behavior because violence is an effective method for gaining and keeping control over another person. The abuser objectifies women, sees women as property, and does not respect women as a group. Historically, punishment for this type of violence has lacked severity and thus deterrent for such behavior.

We must also provide women with more resources. Most battered women have children, are not employed outside of the home, have no property that are solely theirs, and lack access to cash or bank accounts. There exist 3 times more animal shelters than battered women's shelters in the United States. We must work to ensure that women have the support system to permit them to leave an abusive relationship.

Mr. Speaker, our country has come a long way from not treating domestic violence against women and children as a "real" crime to passing the Violence Against Women Act. But our efforts must continue to raise awareness of this very urgent issue.

REMARKS OF ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DAVID IVRY AT THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR YITZHAK AND LEAH RABIN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished Ambassador of Israel to the United States had a most personal and longstanding relationship with Israel's late, great Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. It is with deep reverence for what Yitzhak Rabin stood for that I share Ambassador Ivry's comments with my colleagues.

REMARKS OF ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DAVID IVRY AT THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR YITZHAK AND LEAH RABIN

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DAVID IVRY

It is with a heavy heart that I stand before you today, and pay tribute to a couple whose