

TRIBUTE TO SISTER NANCY MORRIS, RSCJ ON BEING AWARDED THE 2001 ST. MADELEINE SOPHIE BARAT AWARD

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Nancy Morris, RSCJ, a distinguished citizen and a resident of San Mateo County, who is being honored on November 6, 2001 by the Sacred Heart Schools of Atherton, California, with the 2001 St. Madeleine Sophie Barat Award.

Sister Nancy Morris, RSCJ was born and raised in Piedmont, California and is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley. She entered religious life and the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1951. She began her illustrious career in school administration in 1961 when she became Principal at Sacred Heart Broadway in San Francisco. Five years later she was named head of the San Diego College for Women which is now the University of San Diego. In 1971, Sister Morris became the Director of Schools in Atherton, a position she held with distinction for eighteen years. During her tenure, the boarding school was closed, and in 1984 Sacred Heart Preparatory admitted boys for the first time in its history.

She continues to be an active, vital member of the Sacred Heart community, preserving its history and traditions for today's students and their families. She is widely revered as a woman of uncompromising integrity who has the highest standards for anyone who works with children, including herself. Her understanding of the spirit of St. Madeleine Sophie Barat is unmatched and her knowledge of the history of Sacred Heart Schools Atherton is unequalled.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Sister Nancy Morris as she receives the 2001 St. Madeleine Sophie Barat Award. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her and thanking her for her extraordinary service to our community which has strengthened our country.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I rise to speak on this social disease and the harm it imposes on our communities.

Domestic violence is an unyielding presence in our society and has extended past the status of a law enforcement issue into a global health problem with far-reaching effects. Domestic violence triggers a seemingly endless string of physical, sexual, and psychological strain that occurs regardless of race, class, age, sexual orientation, and religion, and tends to transmit patterns of violent behavior to children who witness or are victims to domestic violence.

The numbers of victims involved are staggering. Last year six out of ten rapes were committed by an intimate male partner, relative, friend or an acquaintance. A woman is raped every 6 minutes and is physically abused by her husband every 9 seconds. Each year, approximately 1.5 million women are raped and may be physically assaulted by an intimate partner. In 1999, 1218 women were killed by a current or former partner. According to the Department of Justice, nearly half of the violent crimes against women are not reported to the police. Victims of domestic violence are often economically dependent on their offenders and are forced to remain with them and endure abuse. Many women who flee abusive homes and turn to shelters are turned away due to lack of resources. Even wealthier women may find their personal funds inaccessible after leaving a violent situation.

Domestic violence particularly plagues our children. One in five child murders was committed by a family member. An estimated 70 percent of men who abuse their female partners also abuse their children. Children of battered women are 12 to 14 times more likely to be abused sexually by their mother's partner. In homes where spousal abuse occurs, children are abused at a rate 1500 percent higher than the national average. These figures may be shocking statistics to some of us, but for many Americans domestic violence is a harsh reality.

In Guam, of the 2,090 violent offenses reported to the Guam Police Department, 661 arrests were made for family violence. In 1999, the Guam Child Protective Services received 1,908 referrals, and between 1997 and 1999, the Guam Adult Protective Services received 907 referrals for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Domestic violence is an epidemic that we can no longer afford to tolerate. Every woman, man, and child has the right to a healthy and safe environment. Numerous national and state organizations have contributed to efforts in raising awareness, conducting programs encouraging preventive mechanisms, providing counseling services, and building centers or shelters for victims and their families.

In recognition of this growing concern and the need to address this issue, October has been declared "Family Violence Awareness Month" by the Governor of Guam. This annual proclamation and commemoration has included a Silent Witness Ceremony in honor of domestic violence victims, a "Hands Across Guam Rally" for island-wide community outreach, a Family Violence Conference for the general public and professional staff, and a Poster Exhibition for Elementary Schools including children's artwork on family and love.

Guam has also benefitted from the \$300 million in Services, Training, Officers and Prosecution (STOP) Violence Against Women grant funds, which were awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice's Violence Against Women Office to 4,715 grant recipients nationwide. Of these funds, 51 grants were awarded to agencies and organizations in Guam, totaling more than \$2.5 million.

Domestic violence is a widespread and growing problem needing urgent and constant attention. Together we must all work to educate and eliminate domestic crimes so that

women, children, and families can live in a safe and nurturing home environment. Therefore, I urge my fellow colleagues to stand together in support of this issue for all victims of domestic violence and for the health and safety of our entire Nation.

PROCLAMATION FOR JOEL LIPSY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young men, Joel Lipsy. The Boy Scouts of his troop will honor him as they recognize his achievements by giving him the Eagle Scout honor on Sunday, November 18th.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

This award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Joel Lipsy, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition. Congratulations to Joel and his family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING PREVENTION ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by 43 of my colleagues in introducing the "Accidental Shooting Prevention Act" to address the large number of firearm injuries and deaths that occur when users mistakenly fire guns they believe are not loaded. This sensible bipartisan legislation would require that all semiautomatic firearms manufactured after January 1, 2005, which have removable