

a remarkable victory for the pro-life movement—those of us who recognize that all human life is sacred and that both legal and illegal abortion is violence against children and the exploitation of women. It was a victory for vulnerable unborn children who would be killed by dismemberment and chemical poisoning and for women who deserve better than the cruelty of abortion.

The outcome was a stunning defeat for the Clinton Administration, which sought to impose an international right to abortion on the entire world.

So why is the Bush Administration seeking to reaffirm that the Beijing consensus did not include a right to abortion? Because clarity, transparency and truthfulness is needed at this time to dispel a pernicious myth—the big lie—promoted by some that these U.N. documents now endorse abortion. Nothing, Mr. Speaker, could be further from the truth.

Over the past 10 years, pro-abortionists have sought to convey the impression that both Cairo and Beijing—by supporting reproductive health, for example—includes the slaughter of unborn children by abortion.

Instead of focusing on women's economic and political empowerment, an end to all forms and manifestations of discrimination, and an end to violence against women, some have sought to distort the Cairo and Beijing consensus to include the killing of girls and boys by abortion.

Yesterday I chaired a hearing on the horrific behavior of U.N. Peacekeepers in the Congo who have raped and sexually exploited girls and young women. As the prime sponsor of the "Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000" I take a backseat to no one in promoting women's human rights. Recent scandals, like the Congo or the oil for food scandal, begs the question of honesty and transparency at the U.N.

Despite having no mandate to promote abortion, the U.N. Compliance Committee for the Convention on All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) has recently scolded Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Zimbabwe, Myanmar, Luxembourg, Ireland, Italy, Croatia, Uruguay, Portugal, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Lichtenstein, Paraguay, and Samoa for their laws and policies on abortion.

In addition, at the end of 2004, the U.N. Human Rights Committee issued a report that absolutely overstepped its bounds and told Poland to repeal their pro-life laws. The report stated, "The State party should liberalize its legislation and practice on abortion." For a U.N. committee that purported to respect fundamental human rights to condemn Poland—and others—for protecting their unborn babies is scandalous. Unborn children deserve respect in law and in practice—these littlest of humans deserve to have their basic human rights protected.

A Center for Reproductive Rights internal document talks about reinterpreting terms and phrases in international declarations, like the Cairo and Beijing documents, to promote abortion and limit parental rights throughout the world. I posted in the December 8, 2003 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Center for Reproductive Rights internal documents where one of their trustees said, "We have to fight harder, be a little dirtier." These papers reveal a

Trojan Horse of deceit. In their own words, these documents demonstrate how abortion promotion groups are pushing abortion here and abroad, not by direct argument, but by twisting words and definitions. In discussing legal strategies to legalize abortion internationally they go as far as to say, ". . . there is a stealth quality to the work: we are achieving incremental recognition of values without a huge amount of scrutiny from the opposition. These lower profile victories will gradually put us in a strong position to assert a broad consensus around our assertions." The abortion lobby admits they are using deceptive tactics to push abortion on countries that have laws protecting unborn boys and girls.

All the United States wants to do at this conference is to be truthful, nonambiguous and accurate about what the Beijing Programme of Action actually says about abortion and get on with the real work of helping women throughout the world.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO  
CHARLEVOIX HIGH SCHOOL  
RAYDERS GIRLS BASKETBALL  
TEAM

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2005*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the players, coaches, and manager of the 2004 Charlevoix High School Rayders Girls Basketball team in recognition of their outstanding season. After an undefeated regular season, the Rayders continued their success in the playoffs, making it to the Class C state finals, and winning district and regional titles along the way.

While their 20–0 regular season, and seven post season wins, are impressive in their own right, the spirit of teamwork and unselfish play that the Rayders brought to the court this year was a shining example of what athletics should be about. All year, these young women, including the team's best players, were willing to play their role and do whatever it took to win.

One of the best examples of this was the team's performance in the state semi-finals and finals. After a year in which every game was a double-digit victory, the Charlevoix Rayders traveled to the Breslin Center in East Lansing, Michigan for the final two rounds of the playoffs where they would face their first stiff competition.

Charlevoix led Flint Hamady for almost all of the semi-final game on December 2, going into the 4th quarter up by ten points. Their opponent was not about to lose without a fight though, and with just under four minutes to go, Flint took a three-point lead. After two free throws by guard Laura Nitchman, All-State center Grace Farrell made a lay up to put the Rayders ahead for the win. The final score was 70–67 sending Charlevoix on to the state finals.

Though they lost to Detroit St. Martin dePorres two days later in the finals, the Rayders knew they had an incredible season. They appreciated the experience of playing in

the Breslin Center and competing for the state championship. Just like they had all season, they showed character, class, and heart.

The commitment to success displayed by this team is no surprise to anyone familiar with the city of Charlevoix, which is a warm, close-knit community on Lake Michigan. As always, the "Rayder Nation" was right behind these young women who gave them a season to remember.

Mr. Speaker, each member of this team deserves to be recognized and I want to take a moment to share their names with my colleagues.

Team Members: Madison McKenzie, Madison Ramsey, Jaime Pettis, Laura Nitchman, Liz Jadwin, Stevie Murray, Shannon Dibble, Kari Way, Sara Cross, Genevieve Kochanny, Grace Farrell, Betsy Dennis, Caitlyn Cole, Sally Haselschwardt, and Bethany Pearson.

Head Coach Keith Haske; Assistant Coaches Bret Erskine, Jim Gels, and Liz Grunch; Trainer Joelle Beaudoin; and Manager Chelsey Haske.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Charlevoix Rayders girls basketball team, their classmates, parents, and community on their success in the 2004 season and in wishing them well when they hit the court again in the fall.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
DOLLY SEELMEYER

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2005*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dolly Seelmeyer on the occasion of her recent retirement from the United States House of Representatives after 34 years of distinguished Service.

Shortly after she began to work for this august institution, Dolly became the first female photographer in the Office of Photography. To understand the length and breadth of the times she witnessed, one only has to know that when she began her tenure, Richard Nixon was President of the United States and Carl Albert was Speaker of the House. My friend, colleague and fellow Michigander Gerald Ford was Minority Leader of this body. She not only observed, but was able to record for posterity many significant events in the history of this body.

In addition to her expertise as a photographer, Dolly was of tremendous assistance to our offices as she helped us to obtain and preserve visual records of bygone times. Her professionalism and courtesy were always present as she helped us to document the history of the Congress. In addition to her official photos, her office was decorated with wonderful photographs of plants and flowers that she took in her own time.

We thank Dolly for her ongoing assistance in helping us to keep a record of the last quarter of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Dolly Seelmeyer