

television, on radio. It is a sentiment that goes from being critical to being dark and ugly.

My wife called me this morning from our home in Illinois. She told me the telephone calls that were overwhelming my office had reached our home and people were calling her all through the night. They got our home telephone number and decided to try to keep her awake all night. Well, that is part of this job. I am not asking for sympathy. I understand I am a public figure. I am sorry she had to put up with it. She has put with it for a long time. But that sentiment got carried away in many respects. It went beyond criticizing a bill and went into something else that doesn't speak well of us as a Nation.

So tomorrow morning, across America, many people—some 12 million of them—will get up and go to a job where they will work hard and they will come home and not be sure about what tomorrow will bring. They do not know if there will be a knock on the door and they will have to leave. They do not know if they will be separated from the family they love, they do not know whether their children will have any future at all. That uncertainty is because of the fact that we did not have the votes today in the Senate.

I think about some of them whom I know personally. I think about some of the characterizations of those people which I think are so unfair.

Last weekend, Pat Buchanan, who makes a living writing books and saying things that are controversial, was on "Meet the Press" and characterized the 12 million people as criminals, welfare recipients, called them the mass invasion of the United States. Perhaps a few of them might fit in that category, but not the ones I have met and know.

Among the people now whose lives are going to be left in uncertainty is a mother I know and know very well. Her husband was one of those lucky ones. He was a citizen from Mexico. In 1986, he was given amnesty by President Reagan. He works 14-hour days in a club in Chicago as a maitre'd, greeting people, bringing them to their tables. He and his wife have four children who are all American citizens. They were all born here. But his wife is undocumented. Several years ago, she was deported, 3 days before Mother's Day, back to Mexico. She was pregnant at the time and wanted to stay in the United States with her doctor until the baby was born but wasn't allowed. Eventually, I called the State Department. They gave her a humanitarian visa to come back to the United States. Now once each year I make a phone call to ask if she can stay with her family for another year. Luckily, she has been able to stay on what they call a humanitarian waiver. But she and her children never know from year to year whether mom is going to be deported to Mexico. Will it make America better if she leaves? Will it make

that family better? I don't think so. This is clearly a case where this great Nation can certainly absorb a loving mother who wants to make sure her kids have a good life.

There is another girl—she is now a young woman—I know from Chicago. She is Korean. She was an amazing young lady who had great musical talent. She was accepted at Juilliard School of Music, but when she applied she learned from her mother that when she was brought from Korea to the United States at the age of 2, no papers were filed. She had no status. She wasn't a citizen of anyplace. She called our office and said: "What should I do?" We checked, and we were told she had to go back to Korea. She had not been there since she was 2 years old. Her life is a life of uncertainty now. Where is she going to go? This is the only country she has ever known. She wants to use her musical talents right here in America, a place she calls home.

Then there is an attorney in the Loop in Chicago, a nice, attractive, young woman who graduated from law school. I met her at a gathering. She asked if I could talk to her afterward. She came up to me and said: "I have to talk to you in private. It is about my mom. My mom is Polish. She came to Chicago to visit some relatives years ago, overstayed her visa. She is not here legally. She got married, had a family. She lives in constant fear that she is going to be deported away from her children and grandchildren. What are we going to do, Senator?"

There will be no answer to these cases until we have a law that creates a mechanism, a formula, and a process that is reasonable. We tried to do that today without success. We can't give up. We can't give up on these cases, and we can't give up on this issue.

We have to understand that this great Nation of immigrants has to have laws. These laws have to be followed. There will be no more amnesties. What we suggested today was that anyone who is here and wants to try to make it to the finish line of legalization has to understand how tough it will be over 8 to 13 years before you can reach that goal. Go to the back of the line so everybody who applied legally comes before you, learn English, have no criminal record, have a history of work, pay your taxes, pay your fines, check in every year. Then, at some point, go back outside this country and apply to come in again. Those are not easy steps. Very few would have made it to the finish line, but we gave them that chance. That is what America is about, to give people a chance.

I hope we return to this issue. I doubt if it will be soon. But I hope we return because of the fact that we have left so many questions unresolved.

DARFUR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor this evening to address an

issue which I have addressed every week for several months now. It is the ongoing genocide in Darfur. How long are we going to allow this genocide to continue? How long will we allow mass killings, rapes, torture and the torching of homes and entire villages? How long will we tolerate 200,000, maybe 400,000 deaths? How long will we tolerate 2.5 million people displaced from their homes, a refugee crisis in Chad and other nearby crises? How long will the global community tolerate such brutality in today's world.

In May, more than 4 years after the crisis in Darfur began, President Bush said:

For too long, the people of Darfur have suffered at the hands of a government that is complicit in the bombing, murder, and rape of innocent civilians. My administration has called these actions by their rightful name: genocide. The world has a responsibility to help put an end to it.

I agree with the President. I agree, and I call on the President to help America take action by use his upcoming visit with Russian President Vladimir Putin to demand a halt to Russian military sales to the Sudanese Government, sales that fuel the violence and are in violation of the U.N. arms embargo. My colleagues on both sides of the aisle—Senator SAM BROWNBACK, Republican of Kansas; RUSS FEINGOLD, Democrat of Wisconsin; GORDON SMITH, Republican of Oregon—have joined me in a bipartisan request. Together we wrote President Bush asking him to take action on this urgent issue when he meets with the President Putin. Russia can't claim to be a responsible leader in the global community and at the same time flaunt United Nations sanctions established to help end this ongoing genocide. Mr. Putin cannot have it both ways.

Amnesty International recently reported that Russia and China, two permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, are supplying the bulk of weapons to Sudan. That is right. Two permanent members of the U.N. Security Council are providing the weapons and ammunition being used by the Sudanese Government to perpetuate the genocide, killing innocent life. That is unacceptable. Mr. Putin must put an end to weapons sales. Weapons sold to the Sudanese Government contribute to the massive human misery and violence in Darfur. As I speak today, human rights violations, rapes, murders, attacks on humanitarian workers continue without end. The accounts are ongoing and widespread.

For example, the Associated Press recently reported a horrible story, one that is sadly too common in Darfur. Seven women at a refugee camp in Kalma, Darfur, pooled their money to rent a donkey and a cart. They ventured out of the camp to gather firewood, which they hoped they might be able to sell and use the proceeds to feed their families. A few hours away from the camp, they were attacked and robbed by the Janjaweed militia. They

were gang raped and beaten. They had to flee naked back to the camp.

According to Amnesty International, in recent years, Russia exported to Sudan \$21 million worth of aircraft and related equipment and more than \$13 million worth of helicopters. Witnesses have documented Russian attack helicopters used by the Sudanese Air Force during Janjaweed attacks. Russian-built Antonov aircraft have been seen bombing areas along the border with Chad.

I have photos I will share with those following the debate. This is an MI-24 attack helicopter at Nyala airport in Darfur, March 2007. It is a Russian helicopter. According to the United Nations, the sales of this aircraft are prohibited. The Russians make these sales, and these helicopters are used to kill innocent people. President Bush is meeting with the President of Russia. I hope he will mention this attack helicopter and how it is being misused in violation of U.N. resolutions.

Similarly, this is the Antonov-26 aircraft spotted in many places in Darfur between January and March 2007, parked here at Nyala airport in late March 2007, another Russian aircraft sold in violation of U.N. resolutions that can be used, unfortunately, to sustain a government which is perpetuating a genocide. Russia should not be helping the genocidal efforts of the Sudanese Government.

It has been 2½ years since President Bush decisively called the crisis in Darfur a genocide. We have tightened sanctions and called for greater action to stop it, and I applaud that. But we must do more. I have appealed to the President personally and directly on three different occasions. Last week, I appealed to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to seize every single opportunity to make the genocide in Darfur a big issue, an issue of diplomacy and for action.

I say to the President, we have many issues to discuss with our Russian partners, ranging from cooperation in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and materials to reaffirming support for basic democratic principles and institutions in Russia. Our relationship with Russia is a very important one. But we can't look the other way when an ally is aiding in a genocide. I hope President Bush will use his visit with President Putin to help highlight an issue that requires immediate attention, helping to stem the crisis in Darfur. Put an end to this genocide by putting an end to Russian weapons sales to the Sudanese Government.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about the immigration reform issue. Before my colleague from Illinois leaves the Chamber, I wish to say that at the end of the

day, there were some profiles in courage, people of the heart but also people of the mind who wanted to do what is right for America and for America's future. I cannot think of a better colleague than the senior Senator from Illinois, DICK DURBIN, for his passion, for his wisdom, for his courage, and for his leadership. I look forward to continuing our work together as we work on this and so many other issues that are so important, both to Illinois and to Colorado and to the Nation and to the entire world. I thank my colleague from Illinois.

As I reflect on the occurrences of the last several years with respect to immigration reform, I wish to comment on several things. The first of those is a long history related to an issue that is somehow intertwined with my own life. Four hundred nine years ago, my forefathers and foremothers came to the place we now call the State of New Mexico, today known as the land of enchantment. It was in New Mexico they decided to found what was the first settlement in the Southwest and in that part of the State. They named that city the city of Santa Fe, the city of holy faith. Over the centuries following the founding of the city of Santa Fe, for the next 250 years, my family continued to farm and ranch along the banks of the Rio Grande River, from Santa Fe up to the north through communities such as those named Espanola and Chama. Then in 1848, we didn't immigrate to this country, but the border of the United States of America moved us over to the Rio Grande River to the south. It was in 1848, the Mexican-American war was ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The signing of the treaty gave the people who lived in at that time the Southwestern part of the United States the option of either becoming citizens of these United States or going back not from where they had come but back to the other side of what had been a new border that had been created in 1848.

My forefathers and foremothers at the time having had 250 years of history living in the Southwest, living in New Mexico, living in the southern part of Colorado, made the decision they were going to choose the path of America, the path of the future, the path of what is now the greatest country in the world. It was a good decision. As a result of that decision, we have been now in New Mexico and Colorado for a number of generations. I am a fifth generation Coloradan. My family goes back in New Mexico for 12 generations.

Going back to that history, and recognizing for the first 250 years of my family's settlement of these United States they were part of the Government of Spain, subjects of the Government of Spain for most of that time, and then for about 20 years a part of the Mexican Government when Mexico overthrew Spain in the War of Independence in 1821. So for us there is that

history which ties us so much to the lands of the southwest.

Now, for me, when I think about that history, and when I see what America has done for my family, I see very much an America that has been an America in progress.

I look to the Civil War, where there were over 600,000 people in America who died, as Lincoln said in his Gettysburg Address, to give a new birth of freedom to America. That was a statement by President Lincoln in which he believed slavery and the separation and ownership of people based on their race was something which was absolutely wrong. He was able to keep our Union together with the blood that was spilled both in the South and in the North.

It was out of that great Civil War of our times that we ended up with what are now some of the more significant amendments of our Bill of Rights. One thinks of the 13th and 14th and 15th amendments that abolished slavery, that created equal protection under the laws, that made sure everybody—no matter who they are, no matter where they come from—had an opportunity in these United States.

But that was not the end of the march for progress because even with the inclusion of those amendments, women were excluded and, in fact, the U.S. Supreme Court, in interpreting those amendments, made the decision that the Jim Crow segregation laws of the United States of America were just fine; that it was OK for the Government of America to sanction a place where you could have schools for Blacks, schools for Whites, schools for people who were Hispanic. It was OK, in those days, for women, according to the laws of this country, not to be allowed to vote, to take a subservient and very secondary role in our society. That was after a great civil war where over 600,000 people gave their lives on the soil of our America. But yet America marched forward on a path of progress. And we did, indeed, later on adopt the women's right of suffrage that allowed women to vote in our society.

Through the long civil rights movement, led by great leaders such as Thurgood Marshall, we ended up with a courageous Supreme Court in a unanimous decision of those days where Justice Warren wrote the famous Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board of Education*. In that 1954 decision by Justice Warren, what Justice Warren said in that decision is that the place of separate but equal had no place in our America. He said you cannot have a doctrine of separate but equal. That ends up branding those who are of a different color with a sense of inferiority and, therefore, under the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment there was no room for segregation in the United States of America. That was a significant milestone in our march for progress in America.

We have made major steps since that point in time. The passage of the Civil