

time for our government to start defending its citizens from those who will cross our borders illegally and threaten the American people.

MORPHING CAMPAIGN FINANCE, GOVERNANCE, AND PERSONAL AGGRANDIZEMENT IN A TANGLED WEB

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, while the U.S. economy retrenches, the front page of the Wall Street Journal today reports that former President Bill Clinton could “get a \$20 million payout from a politically sensitive partnership tie to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, made possible by his high profile business relationship with the investment firm of billionaire friend Ron Burkle.

The last time I looked, Dubai is not part of the United States and it is not a democracy.

As I read this article by John Emshwiller, I thought to myself, has any President in modern history, but for Jimmy Carter, not used the White House to cash in upon retirement? Further, has any modern President not used their White House connections to build themselves pyramid monuments upon leaving office in the form of presidential libraries where they milk their presidential contacts for millions and millions of dollars? How sad is it that former President George Bush and former President Bill Clinton took huge sums of money from foreign interests like Saudi Arabia to build their presidential libraries? Contrast this to our Nation’s Founders, who pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors to the cause of freedom. Now it appears all is for sale.

Today’s story is but another example of where our Nation’s highest elected officials are morphing campaign finance, governance, and their own personal aggrandizement in a tangled web. It raises to the highest levels the issue of influence peddling and what was done during those White House years to yield such super human rewards.

I lament the condition in which we find our national politics. Until the American people hear and understand what is happening, nothing will change. It will only worsen. Look at the disgraceful sums of money being raised by presidential candidates in both political parties and, of course, waiting in the wings the latest batch of billionaire contenders who are just ready to put their oars in the water too.

One of America’s greatest President’s was John Quincy Adams. After John Quincy Adams left the presidency, he did not immediately head out onto the lecture circuit. He did not sell his services to a rich foreign power. He did not set out to enrich himself on the fame that he had acquired by virtue of his

service to the Nation. No, it was a different day and time. John Quincy Adams, after leaving the presidency, came back to Washington as a Member of this U.S. House of Representatives. To this day, he is the only President who did. He finished his life here, dying on the second floor of this Capitol. John Quincy Adams, instead of lining his own pockets, started his vaunted “second political career” by fighting against slave power. He made it the cause of his lifetime.

Just as money power dominates the national political preoccupation today, so slave power dominated political life in the United States in the first half of the 19th century. It was as deeply entrenched as the neoliberal model of international trade is today.

When Adams was President, Members from the Deep South had enacted a “gag rule” here in the People’s House so that anti-slavery petitions would be summarily rejected, as if this parliamentary maneuvering could stop the discussion about slavery and the slow march to justice.

Professor William Lee Miller has written about John Quincy Adams’s commitment to fighting slave power here in Congress, a battle that some historians have described as the “Pearl Harbor of the slave controversy.” John Quincy Adams refused to give up the fight until at last the Nation had heard the message of the petitioners: that slavery was inimical to the American ideal, an assault on the Constitution, and a stain on the Nation’s conscience.

America must cleanse our political system today of the stains that even Presidents of the United States create as they enrich themselves. The Wall Street Journal article describes how Mr. Clinton is a partner of the Yucaipa Global Partnership Fund, which raised several hundred billion dollars from a range of investors. Who were these investors? How did any of them relate to the policies of the Clinton administration? These private funds do not have to disclose their activities as a normal business; so how do the American people know?

The director of this fund is Mr. Ron Burkle, a major fundraiser and backer of the Clintons. To mix fundraising, undisclosed business interests, and the presidency is a combustible mix. The American people have a right to know.

The article goes on to relate how Rudy Giuliani’s consulting firm has interests in the government of Qatar. What are those interests? And how does he seek to personally benefit if elected President?

Mr. Speaker, the American people want Washington to clean up its act. As the presidential races proceed this year, isn’t it high time that the campaign finance reform question be a top one in all the debates? John Quincy Adams would not recognize the Republic as it stands today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

VACATING 5-MINUTE SPECIAL ORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, permission for a 5-minute Special Order speech for the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is vacated.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING HRANT DINK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Turkish Armenian journalist Hrant Dink. One year ago, Hrant Dink was brutally gunned down outside his office in Istanbul, Turkey by a self-proclaimed Turkish nationalist. The world lost a great human rights advocate and his tragic death was an attack on democratic ideals and values.

Dink was first charged with treason for upholding an irrefutable historical fact about the Armenian Genocide. He was convicted for his writings in 2005 for violating article 301, a law that makes it a crime to “insult” the Turkish state. This law continues today to be used to persecute, prosecute, and incarcerate those who attempt to exercise their universal human right of freedom of speech.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey uses intimidation to deny its citizens their right to freedom of expression. It lobbies for its so-called rightful role in the international community and a place in the European Union. Yet it does not live up to democratic principles and standards.

Hrant Dink is not the only one who has suffered from the consequences of this Turkish penal law. Anyone who refers to the events of 1915 for what they were, genocide, is targeted within Turkey. In addition, our own country is seeing the effects of this denial as Turkey continues to oppose human rights legislation condemning the Armenian Genocide here in this House.

Mr. Speaker, I remain deeply concerned with Turkey’s failure to adopt standards and practices of both domestic and international conduct that would reverse and overturn the climate of intolerance, prejudice, and repression, as exemplified by article 301 of the Turkish penal code. It was this penal code that precipitated Mr. Dink’s murder.

Hrant Dink was guilty of nothing more than having the courage to defend freedom of the press and promote human rights and tolerance in Turkey. He was a man of conviction and principle who believed in democratic ideals and peaceful change. I urge Turkey to honor his name and repeal article 301.

SCHIP VETO OVERRIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, a new report by the Joint Economic Committee shows that a million more children a year may need public health insurance due to worsening economic conditions, even apart from the growing trend in public coverage.

If history is any guide, an economic downturn will lead to substantial increases in the demand for children's health and Medicaid, including some 70,000 additional children in each year of a downturn in my home State of New York.

Yet the administration is proposing a range of cutbacks to these programs that will make the problem even more severe. And State budgets are already strained by the weak national economy and the growing housing crisis.

This is a perfect economic storm that can be avoided if Congress votes today or tomorrow to override the President's veto of legislation that would bring health care to 10 million children in need.

Over the next 5 years, our bill would preserve coverage for the more than 6 million children currently covered by children's health care and extend coverage to nearly 4 million children who are currently uninsured. Overriding the President's veto of SCHIP reauthorization would guarantee sufficient funding levels for the Children's Health Program to serve future enrollment needs. Additional Medicaid assistance to the States would also provide shelter from the coming economic storm. Increasing the Federal Medicaid match percentage to the States as part of a stimulus package would help ease the blow of the economic slowdown on our children, families, and States.

I urge my colleagues to override the President's veto of children's health care tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. YARMUTH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. TIAHRT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. TIAHRT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ROE V. WADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, this is the 35th anniversary of Roe versus Wade, and tonight I would like to recognize Congressman CHRIS SMITH, who has been a committed champion to protect the unborn for as long as he has remained a Member of this body. So I yield now to Congressman SMITH.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today, 35 years after the infamous Supreme Court decisions legalizing abortion on demand throughout pregnancy, we mourn the estimated 50 million innocent girls and boys whose lives were cut off by abortion, a staggering loss of children's lives, equal to six times the total number of all people, young and old, living in my home State of New Jersey.

Someday, Mr. Speaker, future generations of Americans will look back on us and wonder how and why such a rich and seemingly enlightened society, so blessed and endowed with the capacity to protect and enhance vulnerable human life, could have instead so aggressively promoted death to children and the exploitation of women by abortion. They will note with keen sadness that some of our most prominent politicians and media icons often spoke of human and civil rights, while precluding virtually all protection to the most persecuted minority in the world today: unborn children.

On Sunday, Senator BARAK OBAMA criticized Americans for both our moral deficit and what he called our "empathy deficit" and called upon us to be our brothers' and sisters' keepers.

□ 1945

Can Senator OBAMA not see, appreciate or understand that the abortion culture that he and others so assiduously promote lacks all empathy for unborn children, be they black, white, Latino or Asian, and is at best profoundly misguided when it comes to their mothers? Why does dismembering a child with sharp knives, pulverizing a child with powerful suction devices more powerful than 20 to 30 times the average cleaning machine, vacuum machine, or chemically poisoning a baby with any number of toxic chemicals fail to elicit so much as a scintilla of

empathy, moral outrage, mercy or compassion by America's liberal elite?

Abortion destroys the very life of our "brothers and sisters," and the proabortion movement is the quintessential example of an "empathy deficit."

Mr. Speaker, we need to be blunt. Abortion is violence against children. It is extreme child abuse. To strip away the euphemism, it is cruelty to children. Sadly, abortion is not only legal until birth, but the daily perpetrators of this terrible injustice are massively subsidized by liberal politicians who enrich the abortion industry with taxpayer funds.

In 2008, the largest abortion provider in the Nation, Planned Parenthood, continued to receive huge amounts of taxpayer funds. Some time ago on the floor, Mr. Speaker, I asked Americans, I asked my colleagues, and suggested it was time to take a second look at Planned Parenthood, "Child Abuse, Incorporated." Every year they abort over 265,000 children in their clinics, a huge and staggering, stunning number of child deaths. And yet they get massive amounts of Federal funds and local funds.

Mr. Speaker, there are at least two victims in every abortion. It is time to recognize and accept the inconvenient truth that abortion exploits women.

Dr. Alveda King, niece of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, has had two abortions. Today she has joined the growing coalition of women who deeply regret their abortions and are part of a group called Silent No More. Out of deep personal pain and compassion for others, they challenge us to respect, protect and tangibly love both mother and the child. The women of Silent No More give post-abortive women a safe place to grieve and a road map to reconciliation. And to society at large, these brave women compel us to rethink and reassess the chief sophistry of the abortion culture. Reflecting on their famous uncle's speech, the "I Have a Dream" speech, Dr. Alveda King asks us, "How can the 'Dream' survive if we murder the children?"

Finally, 35 years after Roe, the pro-life ranks today have swelled with abortion survivors, women who tell their stories with great bravery and candor. I remember hearing a woman right outside of the Supreme Court who, while she was actually getting the abortion, said to the doctor, she was only partially sedated, said, "It is trying to move." She said she wanted to get up off of that table and run out the door, and the nurses practically screamed at her and said, "It is too late. The abortion is already underway." So many others who have actually seen the child after being aborted, very often they whisk the baby away so that there is no contact made, who then tell the story of the nightmares. Again, the Silent No More campaign helps these women reconnect and find reconciliation and hope for their shattered lives.