Time Allocation

citizens and low-income people. This is the direction that we feel as a country we should be going in.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas Young (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, it is always interesting to watch the Minister of Finance wriggle around on his goods and services tax. As he was concluding his remarks, the Minister of Finance stated that surely the GST is visible and that everybody in Canada knows that there is going to be a 7 per cent GST because we have talked so much about it. If that were the test, I think that the minister would have to agree that the FST must be visible because he spoke incessantly about it over the last year and one half. If the GST is visible because he has talked about it, certainly the FST has now become visible as well.

The minister is right about the fact that you can punish governments, I understand that. The minister says that governments will be punished if they misuse the GST. The fact is the FST has gone from 9 per cent in 1984 to 13.5 per cent in 1990.

When you look at the 32 tax increases the government has put forward you see that this government has shown great courage with respect to taxation. It makes no difference if it is visible or invisible—it will tax anything that moves.

When you look at the web of deception that is being woven here, Mr. Speaker, and when you listen to the Minister of Finance who answered in the House today a question I put to him by saying that Albertans would be better off under the goods and services tax, imagine what the Minister of Finance and the government are saying to Albertans. While people across that province say no to the GST, and while the government of that province publishes reports indicating the kind of havoc that will be wreaked on Alberta if this tax is put through, the minister, the government and their supporters in the House get up and say: "The tax will be good for Albertans'.

The Minister of Finance talked about royal commissions, reports and studies. I defy the Minister of Finance to produce one report or one study that talked about implementing a goods and services tax, a value-added tax, a business transfer tax or any type of consumer-driven tax that is two-tiered. Never has that been suggested, not only by a royal commission or a study in

Canada, but it has never been suggested by anybody in the world.

Ms. Campbell (Vancouver Centre): What about Liberal support for the multi-stage tax?

Mr. Young (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice brings up a very good point. The support for the multi-stage tax that was put in place in the committee was for a single tax.

The Minister of Justice should be very careful when she talks about support for various public positions that she has taken. The Minister of Justice is not in a very good position to talk about positions she has supported before, and what she is doing now. I would be more careful of my own position if I were her.

When the Minister of Justice speaks to the women of Canada pretty soon on bills that she is bringing before the House, maybe she will have more to say about switching her position. The Minister of Justice is going to have a short-lived career on the front pages of women's magazines in this country if she keeps this up.

I want to make sure that the people of Canada understand what is taking place here today. We are talking on behalf of Canadians because parliamentarians are going through the same process as the government has imposed on Canadians. It is refusing to listen. If you are against the GST, it is because you do not understand it. But the government will not let you talk about it long enough to make sure that the 20 per cent of Canadians who are left, who do not oppose this tax, will in fact change their minds to make it 100 per cent of Canadians who reject this tax.

I defy any member to go out to Alberta or other parts of the country to see the fear and frustration that Canadians are experiencing over this tax.

One thing that the Conservatives have done as a government is impose time allocation. If this government had been in charge during the French Revolution, it would have made Robespierre look like Peter Rabbit. They pull the guillotine more often than anybody else has in the history of this country.

Some hon. members: Shame!

Mr. Young (Gloucester): Not only is the government forcing time allocation to make sure it gets rid of this bill as far as the House of Commons is concerned before Easter, if you are a Conservative and you oppose this bill you are expelled. You are exiled. You cannot as a Conservative be against this bill. They can only control