

- WHEN WE APPROACH THE ISSUE OF RAISING HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, WE GENERALLY CONSIDER TWO CRITERIA IN ARRIVING AT A COURSE OF ACTION: THE FIRST IS WHAT ACTION WILL LIKELY BE EFFECTIVE; THE SECOND IS WHETHER AN ACTION WOULD BE APPROPRIATE;
- WHETHER OUR ACTION, IF TAKEN, WILL BE EFFECTIVE HAS TO BE SUBJECT TO BALANCED AND CAREFUL EXAMINATION.
- WHEN WE HAVE CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH STATES, FOR EXAMPLE, LOW-KEY, PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS ARE DEMONSTRABLY MORE LIKELY TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL DIFFICULTIES, AND, IN TURN, CREATE THE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE ADDITIONAL RECONCILIATION OF PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO CANADIANS.
- WHEN RELATIONS ARE POOR, AND PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IS NEGLIGIBLE, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO MAKE OUR CASE PUBLIC, EVEN THOUGH PUBLIC PRESSURE CAN AS OFTEN CONTRIBUTE TO A HARDENING OF ATTITUDES AS IT MAY TO A MEETING OF MINDS.
- THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "PUBLIC" AND "PRIVATE" DIPLOMACY IS NOT ALWAYS APPRECIATED BY CANADIANS.
- PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR DISSIDENTS IN THE SOVIET UNION MAY, FOR EXAMPLE, BE OF HELP TO THEIR CAUSE, FOR IT PROVIDES THE VERY PUBLICITY WHICH IN TURN PREVENTS SOVIET AUTHORITIES FROM IMPLEMENTING MORE REPRESSIVE MEASURES.
- JUST LAST MONTH, FOR INSTANCE, IT WAS DECIDED TO CONVEY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION THE DISAPPOINTMENT AND DEEP CONCERN OF THE CANADIAN PEOPLE AT THE ARREST OF CERTAIN PROMINENT SOVIET CITIZENS WHO HAD BEEN SPEAKING OUT ON THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
- SIMILARLY, I SPOKE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS JUST THE OTHER DAY ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS CLIMATE IN UGANDA. OUR CONCERNS IN THIS AREA WERE MADE QUITE CLEAR TO THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA, AND AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED SESSION OF THE U.N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. WITH RESPECT TO UGANDA, LET ME SAY THIS. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE UGANDAN GOVERNMENT IS ENGAGED IN THE SYSTEMATIC KILLING OF THOSE WHO ARE THOUGHT TO BE IN OPPOSITION TO IT. YET THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS TAKEN NO ACTION. THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS EVENTUALLY WILLING TO DEVOTE A GREAT DEAL OF ITS TIME IN OPEN SESSION EXPRESSING ITS "PROFOUND INDIGNATION" AT EVENTS IN CHILE, BUT WAS NOT PREPARED TO VOICE EVEN THE MILDEST PUBLIC CRITICISM OF THE SITUATION IN UGANDA. THE CANADIAN DELEGATION INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION URGING THE UGANDAN AUTHORITIES TO ACCEPT AN IMPARTIAL, INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION. THIS WAS A REASONABLE POSITION, CONSISTENT NOT ONLY WITH PREVIOUS CANADIAN ACTION, BUT ALSO WITH ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE, WHICH REQUIRES RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.