

*Government Orders**[English]*

Ms. Black: Mr. Speaker, just to clarify. I want to set the record straight.

I did contact the member in his constituency office in Toronto over a week ago when I began to get a number of calls from women's organizations that work to protect women and children who are in abusive and dangerous situations, sharing their concern with me.

The reason I have raised it in the House of Commons, as I have clearly stated, is I think all members of Parliament in this House should be aware of the implications of printing the addresses of shelters for battered women and abused children. That has very severe ramifications.

I would also hope all members of Parliament in this House, who have known me over the last three and a half years as I have raised these issues consistently with concern and compassion, know I would not in any way use this as a cheap political manoeuvre, as was stated.

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THE ROYAL ASSENT

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received as follows:

Government House
Ottawa

June 5, 1992

Mr. Speaker,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Peter Cory, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 4th day of June, 1992, at 5.30 p.m. for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

Yours sincerely,

Judith A. LaRocque,
Secretary to the Governor General.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS*[English]***REFERENDUM ACT****MEASURE TO ENACT**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Andre that Bill C-81, an act to provide for referendums on the Constitution of Canada, be read the third time and passed.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): There were four minutes left for questions and comments after the speech by the hon. member for Edmonton Southwest.

Mr. Plamondon: Mr. Speaker, I did not rise for the four minutes but for the 20 minutes I am allowed in this debate. I will let someone else take these four minutes and wait my turn for the 20-minute speech I am allowed.

Mr. Phillip Edmonston (Chambly): Mr. Speaker, I listened to the hon. member on the government side who spoke to Bill C-81, an act to provide for referendums on the Constitution of Canada. I have a two-part question, and I think the hon. member should be able to give a straight answer.

The hon. member said that a referendum was extremely important in order to consult the people today, that we should trust Canadians, and that we should not be afraid of what they may decide. If this government is not afraid of what Canadians decide in a referendum, will it conduct a referendum on the goods and services tax?

The second part of my question is as follows: If not, could the government explain why there was no referendum on the goods and services tax? This is a straight question, and I would appreciate a straight answer.

[English]

Mr. Jim Edwards: Mr. Speaker, I guess this has some relevance to the debate and I will answer the question, since I think my friend asked it in sincerity.