

## CHILD POVERTY

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Madam Speaker, I have a petition that reminds us of the unanimous decision taken by this House on November 24, 1989. I repeat:

That this House express its concern for the more than one million Canadian children currently living in poverty and seek to achieve the goal of eliminating poverty among Canadian children by the year 2000.

These petitioners state that poverty and Canadian children will yield ever-increasing costs to the administration of health care, justice and social welfare; that the sound financial management of any country demands the prevention of poverty; and that child poverty is the fundamental reality of family poverty.

The petition ends by humbly praying that Parliament take the actions necessary to reaffirm its commitment to seek the elimination of poverty among children of Canada by the year 2000 and to develop a plan of the implementation and that commitment.

[*Translation*]

## REQUEST FOR ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Madam Speaker, I would like to table a petition from residents of Malartic, Rivière-Héva, La Motte, Val-d'Or, Lac-Marois, Joutel and Matagami, in the riding of Abitibi, who say that films depicting violence on television are dangerous and therefore unacceptable because they act as a stimulus for violent behaviour.

The petition also says that all toys that incite children to play violent games are unacceptable and their manufacture should be banned. It is also pointed out that the repeated broadcasting of news about acts of violence on television, on all channels, and on radio may act as a stimulus for further identical violent behaviour.

Therefore your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to pass the appropriate legislation in order to eliminate violence in our society and thus protect our children and make our communities a safer place to live.

[*English*]

## Routine Proceedings

## CANADA POST

**Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception):** Madam Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 36 to present a petition from my constituents in the towns of Spaniard's Bay and Tilton. It is particularly significant that the number of signatures, roughly 1,200, represents practically 50 per cent of the population.

They are concerned about the reduction of postal services in rural areas. They are concerned that Canada Post intends to systematically close an important number of post offices in small municipalities. They are concerned that the population is firmly opposed to this systematic closure in rural Canada and they cannot seem to do very much about it.

They want to register their concern loudly. I met with them two weeks ago on February 12 and they are asking Parliament through this petition that the rural communities already badly affected by reductions will recover the complete postal services to which they were accustomed.

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[*Translation*]

## QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Charles A. Langlois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Madam Speaker, Question No. 338 will be answered today.

[*Text*]

Question No. 338—**Mr. Murphy:**

With respect to the legal opinions on the constitutional validity of referendum proposals received by the Department of Justice on May 20 and 21, 1992, (a) how many opinions were received (b) what firms and which lawyers provided these opinions (c) how many pages long was each opinion (d) what was the cost of each opinion?

**Mr. Rob Nicholson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, in response to the hon. member's question: (a) six.