

the United Nations study which shows that in terms of quality of life for the last couple of years.

Canada has led all the other nations of the world, including some of the other industrialized nations. It is obvious the member has not read the study too closely. Maybe she read the prepared package that the Conservative speechwriters gave to her. When the studies that the United Nations have done are broken down, when the figures are pulled apart, and you look at the quality of life in Canada from the point of view of women, then Canada falls to rank 17th in terms of the quality of life for women in Canada.

I certainly would be interested if the aggregates were broken down so that unemployed people, people in the poorer socio-economic levels of society, were also given an opportunity to see where they stand with respect to other countries in the world. They would fall far below 17th in the world and fall well below what is experienced in what we call Third World countries in dealing with poverty.

I wish the Conservative government would be a little more honest when it is dealing with the United Nations study because it is not all of one piece. The stuff they leave out is probably more important to Canadians because it shows, at least from the point of view of women, that Canada is not number one, that we fall to 15th or 17th in the world, and that we are led by most of the other industrialized countries who value women a lot more than we appear to value women in Canada.

The statement that the fundamentals are in order also ignores the fact of what Canadians are experiencing. Take the example of unemployment. In my riding, thousands of loggers and forest industry workers have lost their jobs over the years since 1982. For those people the fundamentals are not in order.

As a result of mismanagement of the forest industry, as a result of the harsh programs being brought in by this government, as a result of the harsh programs in downsizing being brought about by corporations operating in the forest industry, and as a result of the very conservative management approach that is being taken by those forest companies, thousands of people in my own community have seen their jobs disappear, and any hope or potential for employment has disappeared as well.

### *Supply*

The same thing is being duplicated all across this country. I look at the experience of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, where according to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, which understates the case in terms of the loss of manufacturing jobs in this country, 350,000 jobs have been lost in the manufacturing sector; 63,000 of those in Quebec.

What kind of devastation is present in the economy of those two provinces, largely as a result of the economic and trade policies of the Conservative government? Many of these people have no jobs to turn to because of the damage done by the Conservatives to the economy.

Many of them made good wages in the past, have spent a lifetime building up assets, building up homes, creating the possibility of education for their families, vacations for their families, and yet for many of them those assets have been wiped out in a stroke by the bad economic management of this Conservative government, bad economic policies, and bad trade policies.

The cold, hard statistics of inflation, of trade balances and that kind of thing, do not take into account the desperation that these people feel when they are faced with the prospect of no new employment and in fact do not even know which way to turn.

Families are breaking up, assets are being lost, lives are being disrupted and destroyed, and all as a result of the Conservative economic and trade policies. When the minister says that the fundamentals are in order and that Canada enjoys the highest quality of life according to the United Nations studies, she is ignoring the many people who are included in the aggregate figures. Their life experiences are very much different from the experience of the people who are benefiting from Conservative economic policies.

• (1250)

Conservative members talk about the government having dealt with the debt problem. I am astounded they could suggest that that might be happening. The net debt when the Conservative government took over in 1984 was about \$160 billion. That was a heavy debt, something that needed to be dealt with. The Conservatives have run up that debt to well over \$450 billion. It has far more than doubled. It has almost tripled and they cannot blame the Liberals any more for the problems of the debt.

This problem is being caused by Tory mismanagement of the economy. Every time hundreds of people are laid