

Witnesses indicated that they had been unable to have a look at these board games and serial killer cards until the committee gave them samples. The same was true of most MPs who opposed importing and manufacturing serial killer cards. They acknowledged they had never seen any.

Therefore, one must wonder how such a marginal issue could keep committee members occupied for several months. Obviously, this is not very responsible.

We firmly believe that this committee should deal more with issues related to real violence rather than hypothetical violence due to the action of some shady publishers.

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#### ACT TO REVOKE THE CONVICTION OF LOUIS DAVID RIEL

**Mrs. Suzanne Tremblay (Rimouski—Témiscouata, BQ)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-288, an Act to revoke the conviction of Louis David Riel.

She said: Mr. Speaker, 109 years ago today, Louis David Riel was hanged. On November 22, 1885, in reaction to his execution, a crowd of close to 50,000 people gathered on the Champ-de-Mars in Montreal and heard Honoré Mercier speak his now famous words of tribute.

Today, I am tabling a bill entitled "An Act to revoke the conviction of Louis David Riel". Some facts are worth recalling. In order to ensure a unanimous verdict, Prime Minister Macdonald had Riel tried in Regina rather than in Winnipeg. The jury was composed exclusively of English-speaking Protestants. In order to justify its actions, the Cabinet, in a report to the House, went so far as to falsify Dr. Valade's report, which stated that Riel was not responsible, by reason of insanity.

The trial was marred by irregularities and Riel was sacrificed by Macdonald to the powerful Ontario lobby. Riel was hanged because he was a Métis, because he was a francophone, and because he went to the defence of a distinct society.

It is important to remember—

**The Deputy Speaker:** I hope that the hon. member and indeed all hon. members will respect the Standing Orders and keep it brief. Otherwise, we will be here all afternoon. One more sentence.

**Mrs. Tremblay (Rimouski—Témiscouata):** A refusal to acknowledge it is a refusal to understand the present and a refusal to build a future.

(Motions deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

#### Routine Proceedings

• (1530)

[English]

#### PETITIONS

##### ETHANOL

**Mr. Rex Crawford (Kent, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have three petitions today. The first petition pursuant to Standing Order 36 is on behalf of my constituents who call on our government to say the same thing in power that we said while in opposition, namely that we support a world class domestic ethanol industry that is renewable, sustainable and environmentally friendly, creating jobs and helping our rural areas.

A \$200 million dollar ethanol plant in Chatham awaits a federal decision of support. It would be 20 times larger than any other plant now in Canada.

##### ABORTION

**Mr. Rex Crawford (Kent, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the second petition from my constituents states that human life at the preborn stage is not protected in Canadian society. Your petitioners pray that Parliament act immediately to extend protection to the unborn child by amending the Criminal Code to extend the same protection enjoyed by born human beings to unborn human beings.

My last petition from the constituents of Kent states that whereas human life at the preborn stage is not protected in Canadian society, your petitioners pray that Parliament act immediately to extend protection to the unborn child by amending the Criminal Code to extend the same protection enjoyed by born human beings to unborn human beings.

##### HUMAN RIGHTS

**Mr. Joe McGuire (Egmont, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have three petitions to be presented under Standing Order 36 from my constituents in Egmont.

The first one is on sexual orientation and the petitioners pray and request that Parliament not amend the Human Rights Act or the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in any way that would tend to indicate societal approval of same sex relationships or of homosexuality, including amending the Canadian Human Rights Act to include in the prohibited grounds of discrimination the undefined phrase sexual orientation.

##### EUTHANASIA

**Mr. Joe McGuire (Egmont, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the second petition is with regard to euthanasia. The petitioners request that Parliament ensure the present provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada prohibiting assisted suicide be enforced vigorously and that Parliament make no changes in the law that would sanction or allow the aiding or abetting of suicide or passive or active euthanasia.