

short, they should take part in the whole judicial process and even be allowed to appeal any ruling.

That is an alternative. Those are concrete solutions. We must start thinking about this and come up with serious proposals instead of a botched motion that amounts to a vague criticism of the whole justice system and the supporting legislation.

• (1620)

[English]

**Mr. John Bryden (Hamilton—Wentworth, Lib.):** Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Saint-Hubert for her excellent remarks. I appreciate the support she shows for the government in this debate.

I would like to ask her a question which pertains to her remarks about sovereignty, the role of the Bloc and the direction in which her party is going.

In the context of sovereignty and in the context of the motion before the House, in her attitude toward sovereignty, would she recommend that individuals born in Quebec who commit major crimes be incarcerated only in Quebec or should they be put in jails across the country? Is it a federal thing or a separatist thing for her, the incarceration of prisoners who are born in Quebec?

[Translation]

**Mrs. Venne:** Madam Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member is serious in asking me that, but I will answer any way, because his concern seems genuine.

There is no doubt that, upon achieving sovereignty, Quebec will look after its prison population, like any sovereign country. Quebec, as a sovereign country, is not different in that respect from any other sovereign country.

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell, Lib.):** Madam Speaker, I listened to the remarks made by the hon. member for Saint-Hubert. I shall set the sovereignty issue aside, since, as can be expected, we disagree on that point.

I wonder if she would not agree with me that it is somewhat ironic that the Reform Party would come and talk to us about victims and whatnot on the very day when a gun control bill is being debated, and perhaps voted on in just a few hours in the other place—to use correct parliamentary terminology and to be in order—that they would raise this issue today, knowing full well how many victims guns have made, not only in our country but also south of our border, where, admittedly, there is hardly any gun legislation.

### Supply

Is it not—how could I put this, again, in parliamentary terms?—less than honest on the part of the hon. members of the Reform Party to address this whole issue of victims of violence without mentioning that they are the ones who moved and continue to move heaven and earth to prevent the establishment of gun control across Canada until now and who lobbied certain Conservative members of the other place about this?

**Mrs. Venne:** Madam Speaker, of course I agree with what the hon. member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell is saying, because that was precisely my point.

Of course, any discussion about victims must include victims of shootings. And of course, the Reform Party completely ignores them. I also agree that, soon, in less than an hour in fact, the other place will be voting on Bill C-68.

I will go and see how the matter is settled in the other place and I hope that it will not have to be debated all over again in this House. As far as we are concerned, I think that it is clear that every conceivable concession and compromise has been made, ultimately leading to the passage of Bill C-68. I hope that the bill will come back unchanged and that there will be no need to consider it again.

[English]

**Mr. Alex Shepherd (Durham, Lib.):** Madam Speaker, it was very interesting to listen to the comments of the hon. member for Saint-Hubert.

She touched very briefly on the rights of native communities. I was wondering if she would reflect on the rights of the Inuit people who reside within the province of Quebec. Does she believe they have the right to self-determination? Does she similarly believe that they could also be a nation within the definition of that word? Do they have the right to secede?

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu):** I strongly question the relevancy of those questions to the motion we are debating.

• (1625)

[Translation]

**Mrs. Venne:** You are quite right, Madam Speaker, this question has nothing to do with the matter at hand.

I would like to point out to the hon. member that, when I mentioned aboriginal people earlier, it was in reference to the position the Reform Party had taken, again, during the gun control debate. I simply made a reference to them earlier.

As for the question per se, I think it might be answered in a different setting.

**Mrs. Christiane Gagnon (Québec, BQ):** Madam Speaker, although I find the motion proposed today farfetched and not really in line with the Reform Party's position on firearms, it does at least afford us the opportunity to address and reflect upon a significant social problem: victims.