

*Private Members' Business*

I have heard nothing convincing in what has been said today either by the member for Kitchener or others in what is magic about imposing an absolute requirement for a five year sentence in the commission of a first crime or eight years on the second, that the day after those five years or that eight year period is completed, that individual is going to be safe to be released back into society.

If I took the member for Kitchener's proposition to its ultimate conclusion, I would say you would put on such a sentence that they might never come back into society. I do not think he is arguing that.

I do not know what is important about five and eight years. What I do know is that it would absolutely prevent, in a number of instances, the assured rehabilitation and the safe release back into society of these individuals.

I have to tell the member for Kitchener that recidivism is still a considerable problem within our institutions. This does not address that issue. Until that is addressed I for one could not support this kind of a proposition.

The third and final thing I want to say is this. The issue, in my mind, is dealing with the thing that we all agree on is not what you do after the offence has been committed, it is how you prevent the offence in the first place. All that has been said about the availability of guns, the acceptability of guns, the way in which guns can flow across the border into this country, those are important issues and the circumstances under which guns are made available, particularly to young people.

I will come here and work with anyone who can do more than that, but I must say that I have been

impressed by the Minister of Justice, by the present legislation, by the work that my colleagues have done on this, and I would like to see to what extent we have been able to help the situation along and then let us come back and discuss it.

At this point in time to just arbitrarily impose these restrictions, I have to say, with great respect for my colleague from Kitchener, I simply could not at this point, as an isolated thing, support it. I think there will be real dangers and extensive damage done as a result.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** There being no further members rising on debate, the time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired.

A point of order, the hon. member for Kitchener.

**Mr. Reimer:** Yes, on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I realize there is still some time left in the hour. I wonder if I might seek unanimous consent of the House to permit this bill to go on to committee?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), the order is dropped from the Order Paper.

It now being 6.50 p.m., this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at two o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 6.50 p.m.