

One of the themes after the massacre was: First, we must mourn, and then we must make sure this will never happen again. Although we are still mourning this tragic event, Canadians must start taking the necessary steps to fight violence against women. Men must understand that no is a clear answer. Men should object to sexist behaviour. Men should reject pornography. Finally, men should listen to women.

I hope the federal government—

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but his time has expired.

* * *

[English]

THE ECONOMY

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Madam Speaker, many of my constituents are fed up with the process of constitutional renewal because it does not seem to be addressing what concerns most of them, and that is the economy.

This perception is not entirely warranted because among the government's 28 proposals are suggestions to strengthen the economic union in Canada and also to remove costly interprovincial trade barriers.

Maybe we ought to go further. Perhaps the Canadian Constitution should include a clause which would make it against the law for the federal government to run a budgetary deficit.

Deficits are nothing but deferred taxes and Canadians are taxed to the max right now, so I rise to urge the parliamentary committee now studying the government's proposal to give serious consideration to a no deficit clause. This could be our greatest gift to generations of Canadian taxpayers yet to come.

* * *

VIOLENCE

Hon. Roger C. Simmons (Burlington—St. George's): Madam Speaker, before that senseless massacre in Montreal two years ago, I had seen incidents of violence against

S. O. 31

women as lamentable but I had felt helpless to play any meaningful part in the solution to the problem.

That terrible event and the public debate that followed made me focus on a brutal reality. It is society, our society, my society, which creates the Marc Lepines of this country and this world. We must change society.

What better place to start than with children. The Montreal based organization Coalition Against Violence in Children's Programming said in its recent publication:

If, through television, film, and toys, we glorify violence, we can expect that, every day, he will play war, a real or imaginary war that will carry over to the home, the classroom and the neighbourhood.

Today we reflect on those 14 young women and their deaths. We reflect on 130 Canadian females—

Madam Deputy Speaker: Your time has expired. The hon. member for Don Valley East.

* * *

THE CONSTITUTION

Hon. Alan Redway (Don Valley East): Madam Speaker, for many weeks during this past summer the government debated its constitutional proposals behind closed doors. According to the media, there were some disagreements.

• (1110)

The final package deals with many, but not all of the concerns that were identified by the Spicer commission. Now all Canadians are discussing and debating these issues openly.

Hopefully the government is prepared to consider and accept not only constructive amendments to its proposals, but other constructive proposals as well, perhaps the proposals already debated and rejected without public input behind closed cabinet doors. After all, the Constitution must express the goals and the values of all Canadians, not just those of the government.

The bottom line is a constitutional consensus a majority of Canadians can live with.

* * *

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Mr. Jim Karpoff (Surrey North): Madam Speaker, today is the national day of remembrance and action on violence against women.