

and it would fit right into the section of the Act which deals with policy. It is an appropriate amendment, and I do not think that we really need to take a step backward and merely look at the whole subject again.

The issue at stake is equality. Anyone who believes in equality for women in Canada must be against pornography because it limits the freedom of women to work, to go out, to take part in trade unions, political Parties, and social, cultural and sports events. Pornography makes women afraid and women cannot be full citizens and full participants in our society while that fear exists. Therefore, I call on all men and women to recognize that we must resist, denounce and fight pornography wherever and whenever possible. Hon. Members of the House here today have the opportunity to take a step that will approve Bill C-675 in principle. The women of Canada expect that of Hon. Members and the women of Canada deserve no less.

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to speak to and offer my full support for Bill C-675 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood (Ms. McDonald). Because of the nature of politics, some people may find it unusual that a Conservative Member of Parliament would speak in favour of a Private Member's Bill standing in the name of a Member of the New Democratic Party. However, this Bill is interesting, it is important and it deserves support from all Members of the House. I would like to endorse the principle of the Bill and certainly see it obtain approval in principle at second reading. Failing that, I would like to see the subject matter of the Bill referred to the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture.

I should point out as an aside to the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood and other Members of the NDP who were not here five and a half or six years ago that at that time, I was here in the Parliamentary Press Gallery and as a broadcaster was very concerned about the subject matter of pornography and particularly pornography on the airwaves. A whole series of Private Members' Bills were put on the Order Paper five and a half or six years ago by the Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath), the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen), the Hon. Member for Provencher (Mr. Epp), the Hon. Member for Edmonton South (Mr. Roche) and the then Hon. Member for the riding that was then known as Selkirk, Mr. Dean Whiteway. The subject matter of the Bills was referred to the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, the Chairman of which was the present Minister of Justice (Mr. MacGuigan). The committee came up with unanimous recommendations designed to deal with the spreading pornography crisis. All of those recommendations have been ignored to this day.

We are starting all over again, Mr. Speaker. It is our expectation that the Government side will approve in principle the subject matter of the Bill introduced by the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood, and certainly we on this side give that approval. Perhaps when the subject matter goes to committee this time, specifically the Committee on Communica-

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tions and Culture, we can deal with it expeditiously and put on the statute books, through an amendment to the Broadcasting Act, some meaningful legislation and laws designed to deal with the spread of pornography over the public airwaves and, in some cases, through the printed media. I will refer to that in a few moments.

The genesis of the Bill is worth mentioning again. The Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood was a member of the task force on sex role stereotyping in the broadcast media which was formed in September, 1979, by our then colleague, my friend, the Hon. David McDonald, who was the Minister of Communications. The mandate of that task force was, and I quote:

To delineate guidelines for a more realistic and positive portrayal of women in radio and television (both programming and commercials) and to make policy recommendations for consideration by the Commission and the broadcasting industry.

The task force reported in September, 1982, with a well thought out document which contained many valuable recommendations, some of which deserve reiterating now. I read from that report as follows:

The following summary of concerns was compiled and discussed by the Task Force: (only related concerns listed)

"Women should not be used as sexual stimuli or lures, or as attention-getting, but otherwise irrelevant, objects."

"Broadcasting should not demean or degrade women through the images used to portray them."

"Male dominance and female submissiveness are at the very heart of the stereotypes of men and women. Pornography reflects the extreme portrayal of dominance and the exploitation of women's sexuality. Pornography, or any portrayal of violence against women, is the ultimate expression of dominance/submissiveness, the objectification of women. As such, pornography, or the portrayal of violence against women has no place in the broadcast media."

As a former broadcaster intimately involved with that industry, I say Amen to those concerns.

The task force recommendations for Pay TV read as follows:

1. recognize the public concern about sex-role stereotyping
2. adopt the applicable programming recommendations set out in this report
3. exercise sensitivity to, and awareness of, the problem of sex-role stereotyping in the acquisition of programming material or rights
4. ensure that women are adequately represented on and off air

I presume that off air in this case means that women should be represented as prominent members of boards and commissions.

Incidentally, I would applaud and second the suggestion made by the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood that the next Chairman of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission might well be a woman and one who would be able to bring to that very important regulatory body the concerns that are raised in this Bill.

The recommendations I have just read from the task force report are ones that we as Members of Parliament should look at very carefully, particularly in light of the second stage generation of this Bill and the Playboy adult programming controversy which surfaced last January over Pay TV programming. Before I get to that, I will point out that this issue is clearly in the minds of the media. As I was putting together some remarks for this speech, I came across an interesting