

*S. O. 31*

People throughout my riding and the rest of Atlantic Canada have the right to know what projects ACOA has funded. People want to know what the agency is doing with their tax dollars.

With unemployment in Prince Edward Island over 18 per cent, it is hard to see how ACOA is helping Prince Edward Island.

I call upon the minister responsible for ACOA to shed some light on the situation and answer my question.

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[Translation]

**VIOLENCE ON TELEVISION**

**Mr. Jean-Marc Robitaille (Terrebonne):** Mr. Speaker, today I would like to make the House and all Canadians aware of the courageous effort of 13-year-old Virginie Larivière following her young sister's violent death. Virginie has undertaken to have a million Canadians sign a petition to reduce violence on television.

As more and more studies show a connection between violence on television and violence in our society, it is our duty to act and ensure that our regulations reflect the kind of society we want.

In the wake of her sister Marie-Ève's horrible death, Virginie Larivière gives us a lesson in courage, humanitarianism and dedication that should inspire us all.

I therefore ask for the support and involvement of all hon. members to help distribute Virginie Larivière's petition throughout the country and to work to reduce violence on television and violence in all its forms.

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**COURT CHALLENGES PROGRAM**

**Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Standing Committee on Human Rights and the Status of Disabled Persons unanimously declared that the federal government should reinstate the Court Challenges Program, which was abolished in the most recent federal budget.

The Court Challenges Program, which is to end in September 1992, enables disadvantaged groups to have their cases heard in court. The committee notes that

without this program access to the recourses provided in the Charter will no doubt be limited to groups and individuals that are already favoured financially and politically.

The government must recognize its responsibility to this country's minorities, like the French-speaking minorities, and restore the Court Challenges Program which has proven to be a fundamental tool for recognizing the rights of francophone and Acadian communities.

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[English]

**IMMIGRATION**

**Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton):** Mr. Speaker, the residents of my riding of Sarnia—Lambton will applaud the government's proposed changes to the Immigration Act. My constituents will recognize that the changes respond to the realities of the 1990s and provide the government with tools to maintain the integrity of the system.

My constituents will welcome the news of proposed measures which will streamline the refugee system and provide better service, curtail the abuse of immigration and refugee systems, including better controls at the border, as well as impose time limits and standard processing time to help eliminate the backlogs.

At the same time, I know they will also applaud the government's renewed commitment to reunite families, protect refugees and promote economic development.

Finally, I know my constituents will appreciate a reformed and revitalized immigration program which is fair, balanced and effective, a program designed to best serve their interests.

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**HENRIETTE HADDAD**

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, seven years ago, Madame Henriette Haddad disappeared in the streets of Beirut.

Today, for the first time, there is encouraging news suggesting that Henriette Haddad may indeed be alive. Her family and friends have worked tirelessly for her release over the years and have often expressed their frustration at the lack of support of their government.