

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the same minister. Of course the minister did have the support of the previous member and this member on behalf of this party, and she withdrew her gun control legislation.

[*Translation*]

My question is again directed to the Minister of Justice. Tory members are proud of the fact they managed to kill the proposed gun control legislation. Young women at the École polytechnique in Montreal are campaigning for much stricter legislation. Why didn't the minister listen to the women of Canada and the women of Montreal? Why did she prefer to listen to the Tory members?

**Hon. Kim Campbell (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I did not withdraw my bill. It is still before the House, and I fully support the fundamental principles of the changes I proposed with respect to the control of firearms, and I intend to see to it that the necessary amendments are made to the Criminal Code.

• (1440)

[*English*]

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same minister.

Would the minister agree with me that women are not the gun owners, the hunters, or even the collectors? Although some of them are, by and large they are not. When it comes to statistics about guns, women are the victims of these guns. That is the problem.

In the spirit we are taking this House on this day, a day when we are reflecting on the first anniversary of this terrible incident, would the minister and the government commit themselves to bringing back before the House good gun control legislation, strong gun control legislation, well before this same time next year, the time when we will have the second anniversary of this terrible massacre?

**Hon. Kim Campbell (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I have already presented to this House what I believe is good gun control legislation. I am looking forward to the constructive comments of the hon. member and other colleagues in

this House on this proposal, because it is in fact the first time that the proposals of the government have been in a public forum.

I do not for one moment want to downplay the significance of firearms as it reflects violence with respect to women, but I think it is also important to understand that there is a difference between urban and rural outlets on this particular issue.

I have recently named my National Advisory Council on Firearms. The vice-chair people happen to be a man who is as former chief of police of Regina and an Olympic gold medalist in shooting competition who happens to be a woman.

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**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

**Ms. Ethel Blondin (Western Arctic):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister.

Violence should have no place in the Canadian family or community, yet every week two women are violently murdered in Canada. One in ten women are abused, be it sexually, emotionally, or psychologically.

I want to ask my question of the Prime Minister, not the Minister of Justice, not the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, but the Prime Minister because he is a man.

**Some hon. members:** Order.

**Ms. Blondin:** Mr. Speaker, will the Prime Minister of Canada give his assurance to all the women of Canada that his government will not cut funding for those badly needed services which battered and abused women depend on?

**Hon. Mary Collins (Associate Minister of National Defence and Minister responsible for Status of Women):** Mr. Speaker, in response to the hon. member, I think she knows that there is a number of federal government programs that work toward support of women who are abused: from my colleague, the Minister of State for Housing, support for transition houses; the Minister of National Health and Welfare, through the family violence program, provides a great deal of support to organizations; and the Secretary of State. Of course the provinces play a very major role in providing support through social services with transition houses and other resources to help women who are victims of abuse.