

**Mr. Speaker:** I hesitate to interrupt, but hon. members know that in presenting petitions, they must stick very closely to what the petition is demanding and not get into debate.

The reason for that is that nobody else can enter into debate if the comments that are made seem in the minds of some others to be rebutted. I know hon. members will want to co-operate on that.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

**Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West):** Mr. Speaker, I take pleasure in presenting to the House a petition signed by a number of people of Windsor in Essex county.

The petitioners request that Parliament take all necessary measures to preserve the policies of section 26 of the Unemployment Insurance Act and continue to work in partnership with the province of Ontario to train and retrain the residents of Windsor and Essex County in this time of excessive unemployment.

These petitions have been duly certified according to the rules of the House.

[*Translation*]

#### REQUEST FOR ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a petition from the area of Lebel-sur-Quévillon. The petitioners state that movies of violence on television and certain news reports on the radio are dangerous and should be prohibited because they encourage more violence.

Therefore, the petitioners humbly pray this Parliament legislate on those points in order to restrain violence in our society, and thus better protect our children and give Canadian citizens a better quality of life.

[*English*]

#### YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

**Hon. William Scott (Victoria—Haliburton):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present a petition duly certified by the clerk of petitions signed by 97 citizens from Lindsay, Omamee, Pontypool, Kirkfield, Little Britain, Beaverton, Dunsford, Oakwood, Newmarket and Oshawa.

They are calling upon Parliament to revise the laws of Canada to replace the Young Offenders Act with an

#### *Privilege*

updated juvenile delinquents act and a lowered maximum age of 13 years.

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#### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

**Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** I ask, Mr. Speaker, that all questions be allowed to stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall all questions stand?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

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#### PRIVILEGE

##### MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

**Hon. William Rompkey (Labrador):** Mr. Speaker, my question of privilege arises out of the fact that the Minister of National Defence has consistently refused to appear before the Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs.

The minister has given as his excuse the fact that he is too busy and that he cannot put it into his schedule. Yet the minister has seen fit to appear before a Senate committee and another committee of this House.

• (1020)

#### SPEAKER' RULING

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Labrador feels that the fact the minister has not appeared before the committee is a breach of the member's privileges and not the privileges of the House. I understand perfectly well the grievance that the hon. member brings to the floor of the Chamber but it is not a question of privilege.

Whether a minister appears before a committee or not is not to be debated here unless of course the committee decides to ask the House to compel the minister or any other member to appear and that must be the avenue of relief that I would ask the hon. member to pursue.

**Mr. Brewin:** Mr. Speaker, on this point—

**Mr. Speaker:** I have made my ruling. Just a moment, nor have I recognized the member. The member for Victoria rises on this point. I have made my ruling and while I am always very sympathetic and sensitive to those who want clarification of rulings, once the ruling is made that is it. I am sure the hon. member will understand that.