

*Adjournment Debate*

at conception and we have to enshrine that into our Charter of Rights.

In 1987 when the member for Grey-Simcoe brought forward a motion setting out the idea that life did begin at conception it came very close to being supported. The motion was lost by a vote of 62 in favour to 89 against, a difference of only 27 votes.

That motion brought forward on June 7, 1987, is I believe the approach that we have to take if we are in fact concerned about the foetus and the life of a foetus. It has to go right back to the Constitution Act of 1982.

That motion stated:

That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should consider the advisability of amending the Constitution Act, 1982, to include unborn human persons, and that the Governor General issue a Proclamation under the Great Seal of Canada to amend section 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights so that it reads as follows;

"7. Everyone including a human foetus or unborn being has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice."

I believe that is the direction in which we have to go.

I believe that only when speaking to a child can one really grasp the abortion issue. It brings it down to a very fundamental and very human level when you are speaking to an eight-year old child. My son, Christian, who is eight years old, one night asked me: "Dad, what is abortion?". Never in my life have I had more difficulty explaining anything to anyone than I did that particular evening in attempting to explain to an eight-year-old child what abortion is. You are constantly grasping for the right words, words that are soft enough to explain to an eight-year-old child exactly what abortion is and exactly what the outcome of abortion is.

Abortion is death. It is as simple and fundamental as that. It is a word that we hate to use but that is exactly what it is. I do not believe that as parliamentarians we can compromise human life and I believe that that is exactly what this bill does, it compromises human life.

In conclusion, I would like to go back to my opening statement, the statement on which I stand, that is:

I am opposed to abortion except in cases where the life of the mother is clearly endangered—

—further I will support all legislation that protects the life of the unborn child.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Pursuant to the order made on Monday, November 20, 1989, a motion to adjourn the House is deemed to have been made and seconded at this time. Therefore the question is that this House do now adjourn.

---

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

### PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Chris Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing):** Mr. Speaker, recently I asked the Minister of Finance about the effect of the proposed goods and services tax on the cost of health care in this country, specifically dealing with physicians' costs. The minister replied that there would be no negative effects on medicare because health care is within the so-called tax exempt category of the goods and services tax.

• (2130)

I rise today to clarify in the House and for the Canadian people what this government promises to do to health care in the name of good management. My remarks are generally applicable to all members of what is commonly called the "MUSH" sector, meaning, municipalities, universities, schools and hospitals, all of which will be in the tax exempt category under the goods and services tax proposal.

MUSH turns out to be a very appropriate acronym for this part of the GST because no one is quite sure what the government is proposing. We know one thing for certain. The Minister of Finance promised to the Canadian Hospital Association last January that under the national sales tax, hospitals would not bear a greater tax burden than they would under the existing tax system.

Unfortunately, given the other broken promises of the minister, revenue neutrality, simplicity, fairness, co-operation with the provinces, all promises he made with regard to the goods and services tax and all broken promises, no one is holding their breath for the fulfilment of this promise either.

Tax exempt is supposed to mean that no one in this class pays more tax after the goods and services tax is instituted than before. But this is very misleading in the