

Something I know about Canadians is that they do respect authority. Canadians do respect law and order. Just give them the opportunity.

• (1720)

Canadians do respect others. I saw a wonderful theatre play in my riding in Parkdale on Sunday. Young teenagers and young adults put on a play warning young children how not to become street kids. What an excellent idea.

In this play a girl got pregnant being a street kid. She had nowhere to turn. This theatre group gave alternatives where this girl could turn so if a girl found herself in a similar situation the information given by this theatre group would help her.

Solutions are coming from the children in the community. I know you are telling me to sit down. Thank you for allowing me to again express the concerns of my residents of Parkdale—High Park as well as concerns of Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: On division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is there unanimous consent to call it six o'clock?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 38 deemed to have been moved.

Adjournment Debate

NATIONAL DEFENCE

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, on April 26, I posed a question to the Acting Prime Minister in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs for the Minister of National Defence.

I asked about the crisis in Srebrenica where 150 Canadians soldiers have put their lives on the line as UN peacekeepers. They have found themselves in a very dangerous situation because the government did not take the advice of the opposition about holding a full parliamentary debate about the nature of the mandate of our peacekeeping troops in light of the changing role of the United Nations and in light of our role changing from a peacekeeping nation to a peace-making nation.

We know that Britain and France refused to send any additional soldiers. We know that additional Canadian soldiers were stopped by the Serb soldiers so they could not come.

I am pleased that today another peace pact has been signed. I hope that all three parties will live up to this new peace agreement. We have had so many signed before but never honoured. It is one thing to sign the peace agreements but it is another thing to honour them.

I hope that the minister is here today because the critic for the Liberal Party asked in Question Period today: "Madam minister, what is the mandate of our Canadian peacekeeping troops?" He also offered a full parliamentary debate on this issue to the government side. As late as today we still do not know what is the role of our peacekeepers. Is it to shoot in self-defence? Is it to protect the inhabitants of Srebrenica from whom all guns were taken and they are left there like sitting ducks?

• (1725)

I agree with the guns being taken away, but I think guns should have been taken away from both sides. Usually in peacekeeping, all arms are taken away from both sides. Our peacekeepers come in and make sure that this is honoured. Any little incident that breaks out, our peacekeepers then through negotiations, not through shooting, try to bring about a settlement. But our soldiers today do not know what is their role, they do not know what is their mandate. We have put them in a very dangerous situation.