

Government Orders

Whoopee. What kind of a response is that to the needs that exist in our urban centres in this country. It is absolute neglect. It is absolutely burying their heads in the sand to the situation and to what needs to be done to correct the situation. To say that there is no racism in our cities is wrong. There is racism in our cities. The fact is we have to face that.

The first thing to do is to face it, and then to deal with it. First, government has got to face it. We have to deal with this very, very serious problem which seems to be getting worse. We seem to be having more drug related crimes.

The Minister of National Revenue, and I congratulate him, has been able to stop a lot of the narcotics from coming across the border. That is important, but the fact is in Nova Scotia there is very little being done to stop drugs from being landed. In our cities, there does not seem to be any shortage of drugs.

Either they are making it here in Canada or there is more coming across the border. I would suggest that illegal importation of drugs into this country is becoming more and more of a serious problem all the time. With the drug related problems comes violence, violence against women, violence against the family in general which feeds industries like pornography, particularly child pornography.

Where is the legislation that is needed in this question? We do not even have the first part of the problem with which we are dealing today. We do not have sentencing reform. The Minister of Justice, whose job it is to bring this legislation before the House, has not brought this legislation forward.

I suggest that we are not dealing with the question. In fact, we are not even keeping the same distance behind the problem. We are falling farther and farther behind the problem. We are saying in this country that we will wait until we have unanimous consent on something. It is obvious that we cannot wait any longer, but we are not anticipating. We are not dealing with the symptoms. We are not looking at the problem and saying: "What is the situation going to be in the future?"

I can say what the situation is going to be in the future if the government does not do something. If the government does not try to understand and deal with the problems of visible minorities in the cities, if the government is not going to support laws and to have reasonable

laws so that the police will know what they have to do and to act in a measured and responsible way so that the police morale is not absolutely downtrodden and we have the worst of both worlds, as seems to be the case in our society today, we are going to have a problem of incarceration that we never had before because we are not going to be able to incarcerate everybody who is going to be breaking the law in this country.

They would be breaking the law because they do not have suitable housing, they do not have jobs and feel that this is the only outlet. Nothing excuses breaking the law, but the fact of the matter is it is going to become an increasing regularity if this government does not do more to deal with the problem.

Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam): Madam Speaker, I have a question and a comment. I will tell the hon. member my question right away.

My question is: Why is the Liberal Party supporting this bill?

The comment I have is this: The hon. member for Cape Breton—The Sydneys must know that when this government talks about law and order, it is full of lawn ornaments. It tinkers with things. It is not doing anything substantial to make our communities safer for Canadians.

• (1120)

The problem is that we have to deal with this. This government says it is for law and order. What this government has failed to do is to give an emphasis to crime prevention. That is the key. That is what will make our cities and our country safer.

Together with that failure to deal with crime prevention on behalf of the Mulroney Conservative government and its economic policies, the trade deal with the United States, which I see the Liberals now support, and the social policies which have made so many people unemployed in our country, we are going to Americanize Canada. We are already seeing it. Toronto was a little bit of a mini Los Angeles.

We are seeing a government that in fact is doing nothing for law and order. It is simply tinkering. Surely, this parole act is another example of a bill that is doing exactly that, tinkering and purporting to say to the Canadian people: "We are for law and order, we are going to make things tougher".