The Address-Mrs. Collins

will work toward the increased political responsibility for their own affairs that they are seeking.

My constituents and I were also heartened by the other comments made on social justice. Certainly to me, the advancement of women toward full economic equality in the country must be a major agenda item for us all. However, I would ask my colleagues to try to put within a new context the traditional women's issues. Certainly issues with regard to divorce, violence and pornography have been raised by women in our society, women working together to make changes. However, they are issues for all people in our society. It will take a concerted effort and a concerted understanding to make the changes that are necessary.

I would like to comment particularly on the task force on child care which was proposed in the Speech from the Throne. My own view of this examination of child care is that it must not be limited merely to how we pay for day care for the children of working women. It should encompass the much broader issue of how we value and support family life in our society and how we may ensure the real nurturing of our young people.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. Collins: We must take into account the changing nature of families in our society. My young daughter Sarah brought her class picture home from school two weeks ago. I asked her how many of the children shown in her picture still lived with their original biological mothers and fathers. She looked at the picture of a class of 27 children and pointed out three or four who still lived under those arrangements. We must recognize, as I personally understand, the changing nature of families and provide the necessary support to enable our families to bring up healthy and well-rounded children for the future of this country.

The issue of violence is of great concern to us, particularly violence against women and children and with respect to pornography. Basically, I believe some of us have had enough. While I am a great believer in freedom, I think that with freedom comes responsibility. We must take measures to define and limit the worst of the hateful and violent literature which degrades women and children. I will be working diligently with my colleagues in this House to that end.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. Collins: Although he is not here, I concur with the words of my colleague, the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson), who spoke last week. He said that it is not enough merely to advance new penalties or new laws but that we must look at the real root of violence in our society. He referred specifically to the issue of soliciting. I think the same principle applies to dealing with issues related to pornography and sexual violence against women and children. There is a big task before us and we need the good will of Hon. Members from all sides of the House to enable those discussions to go forward in this community of ours.

National reconciliation was the third theme of the Throne Speech. Again, the people of Capilano agree that we can no longer go on with confrontation between provinces and the federal Government and with confrontation between labour and management. We must again work diligently to ensure that all sectors of our society work together to solve the issues before us.

I have always been a great advocate of the consultative process and I applaud the initiatives our Government is taking to ensure that people are consulted, are involved and have an opportunity to participate in the major issues we are putting forward to them. It is only with an informed and involved public that we will be able to make some of the changes which I feel will be necessary in the years to come. I have begun those initiatives in my own riding and I appeal to the people of Capilano to join with me in this consultative process.

Finally and only briefly, I would like to touch on an issue which I will discuss in greater depth on a future occasion and that is the issue of international affairs. The people of Capilano expect us, as the Government and responsible players in international affairs, to first live up to our responsibility with our allies in NATO, to search for a lasting peace in a non-nuclear world and to share part of our wealth and resources with the rest of the world. They expect us to bring hope and dignity to human life on a global basis.

I am pleased to report to you today, Mr. Speaker, that the people of Capilano are already joining in the fight to ensure that this happens. This weekend in Capilano we formed the North Shore African Famine Relief Committee with support from all levels of government and all organizations. We are reaching out to the people of Capilano to ask them to assist in this emergency situation and I know that their response will be generous and supportive.

Time does not allow me to discuss further the many issues which I know will be important. I look forward to discussing these with my colleagues in the months and years to come. I leave you this morning, Mr. Speaker, with messages from the hills of Capilano to these hallowed halls of Parliament. These are messages of optimism because, in our minds, the Throne Speech provides that opportunity of rekindling the spirit of Canadians and providing a greater Canada for all of us.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are there questions or comments regarding the Hon. Member's speech?

Mrs. Finestone: Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment the Hon. Member for Capilano (Mrs. Collins). I really cannot wait to return to her area to go skiing and water skiing there. She gave us the most beautiful description of it.

I was very pleased to hear about the Hon. Member's concern with respect to violence and pornography and her description of child care. I think that child care is as much a right of the child as it is of the family. As well, I was very interested in what the Hon. Member said about international affairs and I