S. O. 31

• (1410)

[English]

ATLANTIC SALMON FISHERY

Mr. J. W. Bud Bird (Fredericton—York—Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, the process of constitutional renewal in Canada will be expressed in many ways and will always require the highest motives of all groups in our society.

One example of that process and those motives was demonstrated in New Brunswick this summer when those who are devoted to the Atlantic salmon resource were challenged with the vital issue of its conservation.

As I mentioned yesterday, conflicts and tensions run deep on this issue and could easily have erupted into confrontation and chaos. Instead a direction of consultation and communication was chosen, involving all concerned in the quest for a new vision for the Atlantic salmon.

The minister advised yesterday that a conference will now be convened to define that vision. I wish to pay sincere tribute and respect to all who are working to resolve this issue successfully: sports anglers, commercial fishermen, native people and governments alike.

[Translation]

GUN CONTROL

Mrs. Pierrette Venne (Saint-Hubert): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the tricks of the government whip, who tried to appoint to the legislative committee on Bill C-17 Conservative MP's that oppose the firearms control were brought through light. Mr. Speaker, these members of Parliament do not reflect the opinion of the majority of Quebecers who demand a more strict gun control. Therefore, why does the government persist with this form of obstruction?

Mr. Speaker, rather than trying to improve the bill on firearms, every effort made by these members is aimed at weakening that legislation. When will the government understand that Canadians want a control on firearms? And when will the Conservative members finally take

into account the wishes of the population, who demands such a control?

[English]

JUSTICE

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Mr. Speaker, a 19-year old woman from Burlington, Ontario was murdered some weeks ago and her body was found hundreds of kilometres away near the side of Highway 401.

This was a cruel and tragic death, especially because tougher criminal justice laws in Canada could perhaps have prevented it.

I rise in support of a petition supporting the parents of Nina de Villiers, a petition calling for important changes to the justice system and one which has been sent to all our offices.

In part it reads:

This House should be aware that sentencing in crimes of violence does not appropriately reflect society's abhorrence of violence in order to act as a true deterrent, and to protect the public by removal of the offender from society.

It also indicates that the statutes governing the criminal justice system in Canada must be revised to reflect societal attitudes.

I will sign this petition. For the sake of a life which could have been saved, I implore other hon. members to do the same.

HAITI

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, we have to make it absolutely clear to the regressive military junta in Haiti that we will not recognize their ugly coup. We will not work with them. We will not co-operate with them.

After a long struggle, the people of Haiti were able to elect their own president last February and for six months he has been trying to establish democracy and social justice in this unfortunate country.

Only last week he made an impassioned address to the United Nations which set forth his goals for his country