

found that there are rules and regulations that provide disincentives to family life, to marriage and to home care for children.

The Prime Minister and our government are committed to reviewing our policies in relation to the family.

I would therefore urge the government to work with these organizations and to use local networks, such as the Family Life Education Council of Calgary, in developing a fair, effective and efficient tax system that treats all families equally and enables them to make the choices that best meet their particular needs.

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): “To freedom.” Those words resulted in seven years imprisonment for two Portuguese students, which prompted Peter Benenson to found Amnesty International 30 years ago today.

The original objectives of getting the right to freedom of speech and belief for all, and the aims of getting the release of prisoners of conscience who have not used or advocated violence, having fair and prompt trials, and stopping torture or execution of prisoners have all been upheld.

Now, with more than 1 million members in over 150 countries, Amnesty International has established political neutrality and global credibility while investigating some 42,000 cases, from the killing of children in South America, to beatings in Sri Lanka, torture in Senegal, mass imprisonment in Chad and executions in Iran. In 1990 alone, 72 delegations were sent to 49 countries, including the Middle East, Nepal and Romania.

Without Amnesty International, the tyrants would be celebrating. Instead, we celebrate and look for the day when all people have basic human rights.

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[Translation]

ADVERTISING

Mrs. Pierrette Venne (Saint-Hubert): Mr. Speaker, Labatt's Breweries announced recently that it was making major changes in its advertising strategy. Instead of

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using sex to sell its products, Labatt intends to appeal to people's intelligence. Mr. Speaker, it is high time our breweries stopped insulting the intelligence of Canadians by associating sex with the consumption of alcohol. I hope that other big companies will take the same approach and that soon we will no longer see the kind of advertising that exploits female physical attributes for purely commercial gain.

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, today VIA Rail is being hauled before the courts for thumbing its nose at the Official Languages Act and language of service provisions. For thirteen years, VIA Rail has been the target of comments, recommendations, exhortations, and warnings, all of which were meant to arouse the corporation out of its lethargy.

Since 1978, in the Ottawa-Montreal-Toronto triangle, the Commissioner for Official Languages has received many complaints about bilingual service at VIA Rail. That is why today, the Commissioner saw it as his duty to file a notice of motion with the Federal Court of Canada, ordering VIA Rail to ensure that the public is able to communicate and receive services in either official language, where there is significant demand for the use of that language.

It is also high time VIA Rail implemented the provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms with respect to official languages, by making sure that all Canadians can depend on both official languages being used upon arrival in the stations, in security, ticket collecting, general announcements and security services on board trains and in the stations, and in all other communications between VIA Rail employees and travellers.

Mr. Speaker, VIA Rail, or what is left of it, is still too important to Canadians to be allowed to neglect its linguistic duties. It is time VIA Rail did something about this. Otherwise, the courts will have to order the corporation to behave in a way that is more Canadian and more respectful of our Constitution.