

their tragic loss of their houses of worship but to respond to the sense of fear and alienation that go with those burnings.

Mr. President, the ties that bind us as Americans—particularly our shared faith in God—are greater than this evil. By coming together now, we can guarantee that these acts of evil will gain no ground.

In a sense, all of us who worship God and try to love our neighbors as God's children are the targets of these hate crimes, these arsonists. Yes; we may have different backgrounds and come from different denominations, but we are bound by a common faith—the same faith that helped inspire the founding of this Nation, as is clear from the first words of the Declaration of Independence; that the rights with which we are endowed do not come from some committee of lawyers or constitutional theorists; that we are endowed by these rights by our Creator. That is the source of our liberty, the driving idea of our democracy. Religion has always been a source of strength and purpose and, indeed, of unity in America. Religious people have carried some of the most noble acts of citizenship and leadership across the history of our country.

So when these arsonists strike at houses of worship in America, they strike at the heart of America, the source of America's strength. Those who are full of such hate must fear that which poses the greatest threat to them. The spirit of faith that inhabits those who worship in the churches that have been burned must strike great fear in the hearts of those who have burned them. But the spirit of faith that has been expressed in those churches is not only strong; it is, as the arsonists will learn, a spirit that is unbreakable.

So, though the church is burned, the light of faith that has burned within that church will grow stronger and spread in the minds and souls of those who have worshiped there and, I believe, in the minds and souls of the great majority of the American people.

So I look forward to the resolution coming forth and to whatever other ways in which this Senate can express its outrage at the acts of arson and its sense of fellowship and brotherhood in the most profound sense for those who have worshipped at these churches.

SENATE RESOLUTION 264—RELATIVE TO NATIONAL SPEAK NO EVIL DAY

Mr. MACK (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 264

Whereas words used unfairly, whether expressed through excessive anger, unfair criticism, public and private humiliation, bigoted comments, cruel jokes, or rumors and malicious gossip, traumatize and destroy many lives;

Whereas an unwillingness or inability of many parents to control what the parents say when angry causes the infliction of often irrevocably damaging verbal abuse on the children;

Whereas bigoted words are often used to dehumanize entire religious, racial, and ethnic groups, and inflame hostility in a manner that may lead to physical attacks;

Whereas the spreading of negative, often unfair, untrue, or exaggerated, comments or rumors about others often inflicts irrevocable damage on the victim of the gossip, the damage epitomized in the expression "character assassination"; and

Whereas the inability of a person to refrain for 24 hours from speaking unkind and cruel words demonstrates a lack of control as striking as the inability of an alcoholic to refrain for 24 hours from drinking liquor: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designate May 14, 1997, and May 14, 1998, as "National Speak No Evil Day". The Senate requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the days with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and educational endeavors.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, June 20, 1996, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to revise S. 1424, a bill to redesignate the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument as a national park, to establish the Gunnison Gorge National Recreation Area, to establish the Curecanti National Recreation Area, to establish the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park complex.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management.

The hearing will take place Thursday, July 11, 1996, at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1738, a bill to

provide for improved access to and use of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and for other purposes.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Judy Brown or Mark Rey.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be allowed to meet during the Thursday, June 13, 1996, session of the Senate for the purpose of conducting an executive session and markup.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 13, 1996, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider S. 1844, a bill to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to direct a study of the opportunities for enhanced water based recreation and for other purposes.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, June 13, 1996, beginning at 10 a.m. in room SD-215.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 13, 1996, at 10 a.m. to hold a briefing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 13, 1996, at 10:30 a.m. to hold an executive business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 13, 1996, at 2 p.m. to hold an executive business meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources Subcommittee on Aging be authorized to