

How do you solve teen pregnancy in the United States of America? You are here in Washington. You would think the solution to teen pregnancy is handing out condoms in school. That is not how you solve it.

Listen to what 12,000 students told in answer to this survey: The best way, teens need to know that parents disapprove of teen use of birth control. The number one thing that resulted in fewer teenage pregnancies was when the teens know that parents disapprove of birth control activities.

What do we do here in Washington? We encourage additional birth control, and it is exactly the opposite outcome of what we should be doing.

Number two, parents and teens do activities together regularly. This is how you slow teen pregnancy in America. Number one and two are exactly the opposite of what we are recommending here in Washington.

Number three, teen use birth control properly at first and last act. Again, that is three, that is down the list with these students as opposed to parents being actively involved with their kids.

I pointed this out because there is a lot of discussion in this city about how Washington can solve these problems, and the reality is when you actually talk to the students, the right answer is parents being actively involved with their kids is the best thing that can happen.

Now, what could Washington do to help this situation? We have a tax rate that says \$37 out of every \$100 that a typical American family earns gets paid into taxes to the government in one shape or form or another, either State, Federal, local or property taxes.

So if we really want to help solve the problems of cigarette use in teens, alcohol use in teens, marijuana use in teens, if we want to slow the pregnancy rate amongst teenage girls, if we really want to help with these things, why don't we talk about reducing this tax burden on families so that one of the parents or both of the parents can be home more often and more actively involved with their kids?

TRIBUTE TO PAUL ROBESON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Paul Robeson, accomplished scholar, Phi Beta Kappa, Rutgers University valedictorian, twice All-American Football hero, graduated Columbia University Law School, practicing attorney, Shakespearian actor, and, for two decades, was considered one of the greatest baritones in the world.

Mr. Speaker, on April 9th, thousands of his fans and admirers throughout the world will celebrate the 100th birthday of one of America's most gifted and accomplished individuals, Paul Robeson.

For several years now, there have been efforts under way to try and have

a commemorative stamp in his honor and bearing his name. For some reason, the Postal Service has not seen fit to do so. Therefore, I take this opportunity to ask the question, why, and urge the Postal Service to correct this oversight.

Surely Paul Robeson fits the criteria. Dr. James Alsbrooks points out that various reference books refer to Mr. Robeson as an "American Treasure" and deserves respect. Among them are the World Book Encyclopedia, Britannica, Collier's Encyclopedia, and the Academic American Encyclopedia, which states that Paul Robeson was one of the most distinguished Americans of the 20th Century.

In addition to his brilliant stage career, Robeson learned several foreign languages. He played the title role in the 1943 Broadway production of "Othello," which ran a record 296 performances.

In 1944, he was awarded the Academy of Arts and Letters Gold Medal for best diction in American Theater and the Donaldson Award for Best Actor. In the 1930s, Robeson spent a great deal of time in Europe and was deeply impressed by the Soviet Union and its seeming lack of racial prejudice.

In 1939, he returned to the United States. He supported the American war effort during World War II and campaigned for the sale of war bonds.

After the war, Paul Robeson became increasingly disillusioned with the treatment and status of blacks in American society. He became a spokesman on civil rights issues. In 1950, as a result of some pro-Soviet Union statements, the State Department revoked his passport, charging him with pro-communist leanings. However, in 1958, the Supreme Court upheld his right to go abroad.

Paul Robeson was what we today would call an activist-artist-scholar, who had a profound impact on forcing America to look at racism, classism, militarism and a concept of mass struggle. He was attacked relentlessly, brought before the House un-American Activities Committee, and hounded continuously by ultra right wing conservatives. However, Robeson continued to stand, fight, speak out and perform. He was indeed a tall tree in the American forest.

□ 1830

Given all of these accomplishments and all of these attributes, it is inconceivable that we could deny the placement of such an American on one of our postage stamps, especially given the fact that Bugs Bunny, Wolfman, Frankenstein, John Henry, Paul Bunyan and other symbols adorn these precious vehicles of communication.

As we proceed to the 100th birthday of Paul Robeson, I urge the U.S. Postal Service to move expeditiously to correct the gross injustice, to correct and recognize the enormous contribution of one of our most gifted, most talented, and most impactful citi-

zens. He stood for what America is destined to become: free, just and equal. Let us put him on a stamp.

REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Joint Economic Committee, sometime ago I began or the Joint Economic Committee began a review of a proposal which came to us from the International Monetary Fund through the Treasury of the United States. Secretary Rubin, in essence, passed along the request of the International Monetary Fund, the IMF, for an appropriation of \$18 billion to, in their words, permit the IMF to continue their work.

It is interesting, Mr. Speaker. The IMF, which was established in 1945, over the years since 1945 has had a total, a quota appropriated to it, of about 36 billion U.S. dollars. So one might ask why it would be that the IMF would come to us today and in one lump sum request the appropriation of \$18 billion, a 50 percent increase in 1 year over what they have had over the past 50-some odd years?

So we began to look at this as a very serious matter. This is \$18 billion of U.S. taxpayers' money that would be used for purposes around the world; for perhaps good purposes, in some instances, and perhaps for questionable purposes in other instances; but \$18 billion with a B, of U.S. taxpayers' funds.

So when we began to look at the operations of the IMF, we noticed that something was quite peculiar. That was that, after a great deal of study, we determined that the average amount of interest that the IMF obtains in making its loans to risky creditors in other countries is about 4.7 percent; that is right, 4.7 percent.

By today's standards, or by any standards in the modern world, 4.7 percent is a fairly low interest rate. Americans who buy homes pay in the neighborhood of 7 percent. Americans in this day and age who buy cars pay an interest of 9 or 9½ percent. Americans who use credit cards pay interest rates from 18 to 24 percent. So 4.7 percent interest is a relatively low interest rate.

After we determined that this was the case, we drafted some legislation to try to change the way the IMF does business. Mr. Speaker, we did not suggest that the \$18 billion of American taxpayers' money should be forwarded, appropriated and forwarded to the International Monetary Fund. We said, before we even consider sending them another dime, that we ought to change the rules as we see them, as we participate in the IMF, as to how it operates. They would be some fairly simple and straightforward changes.

The first change would involve our ability to find out what the IMF is