

miles from their target destination. Upon his arrival at that hospital, doctors were able to restore his pulse and breathing. But the circulation to his hands and feet was cut off, and never returned.

James suffered irreparable damage to his extremities. Both his hands and feet had to be amputated. The delay of care caused by driving almost an hour to an affiliated hospital had taken its toll.

Today, James is doing really well. He was able to get to a hospital just in time enough to save his life, and has worked hard ever since to rehabilitate himself. I am confident he will be able to lead a full and productive life. But could things have turned out better for James? Probably so.

The question I have is, if S. 1890, the Patients Bill of Rights had been in effect, could it have helped James Adams and his family? The answer: probably so.

First, the Patients Bill of Rights would have covered access to and payment for emergency services. That is, regardless of what the outcome looked like at the time, since James' parents reasonably believed that emergency care was needed, they would have been able to get it, accessibly, in time. I believe that an individual should be assured that if they have an emergency, those services will be covered by their plan. This bill states that individuals must have access to emergency care, without prior authorization, in any situation that a "prudent lay person" would regard as an emergency.

Second, the Adams family's HMO could not have restricted their choice in service provider. They would have been able to have their own doctor—a regular doctor—convenient to where they live, and covered by their HMO plan.

Third, the Adams' HMO would have been more clearly liable. Luckily, the lawsuit against the HMO that James' family went through was successful, but under current law such an outcome is far from guaranteed. The Patients Bill of Rights includes a provision for health plans that make medical decisions which result in harm to the patient, just as doctors and hospitals are held accountable today.

In addition, the Patients Bill of Rights would mandate a fair and timely appeal process both within the plan and to an independent external body when health plans deny care. It would also provide for access to medical specialists, continued care when a plan or provider is terminated and protection for providers who advocate on behalf of their patients.

Most important, the Patients Bill of Rights would help restore some of the confidence consumers have lost in their health care plans. It would ensure that Americans receive the care they were promised when they enrolled in their plan, and that they paid for with their monthly premiums.

I believe it is imperative that as lawmakers, we work with health profes-

sionals, insurance providers and the American people, to create the most efficient, accessible and responsive health care system possible. To that end I am cosponsoring S. 1890, the Patients' Bill of Rights Act of 1998, which would reform the delivery of managed care. We have a responsibility to ensure that the best health care system in the world remains accessible and affordable to all Americans. Though managed care has changed the nature of the health care industry by providing a more coordinated approach to medical care which reduces costs and waste, many beneficiaries believe, with cause, that their quality of care has been diminished.

As the debate over health care reform continues, I will continue to fight to refocus our health care system on patients—like James Adams—and away from the bottom line.

The ultimate goal of any health care provider, including managed care providers, should be to provide the best possible care for the patient. Anything less is unacceptable. Although the financial aspects are important, we cannot let patient care be sacrificed just because of a bottom line issue. I believe that Congress must take swift action to address the issue of managed care reform and I believe that the Patients' Bill of Rights Act of 1998 is a significant step in that direction.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Georgia. Not that there are not other Senators who are connected to people back in their States, but the Senator from Georgia, I think, among us, stands out as a Senator who is really connected to people he represents. When he uses the word "fight," I think he will be fighting very hard for people and I think we will have really a historically significant debate on this legislation.

This is a very personal issue for people we are talking about, I say to my colleague, their health and the health of their children. So I thank the Senator from Georgia for his very strong words.

BOBBY KENNEDY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, on June 6, 1968, at 1:44 a.m., Bobby Kennedy passed away. I would like to speak about Senator Kennedy. First of all, I just recommend for people in Minnesota and our country a wonderful documentary that will be shown this week on TV on the Discovery Channel, "Robert F. Kennedy, A Memoir." This was done by Jack Newfield and Charlie Stewart. My wife Sheila and I had a chance to see 2 hours of this, a preview. It is very powerful.

I thought what I would do is read from a book which just came out, written by one of Bobby Kennedy's children, Maxwell Taylor Kennedy. The

title of it is "Make Gentle The Life Of The World." This is an excerpt from one of Bobby Kennedy's speeches:

Let us dedicate ourselves to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago, "to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of the world." Thus the title, "Make Gentle The Life Of The World."

Let me just say at the beginning, before quoting from some of Bobby Kennedy's speeches, that I believe—this is just my opinion—that the Senator who really most lives this tradition, of course in a very personal way, but in terms of his just unbelievable advocacy for people and the kind of courage and power, the effectiveness of his advocacy for people, of course, is Senator TED KENNEDY.

Behind me is the desk of President John Kennedy, which is Senator EDWARD KENNEDY's desk. I can't think of any Senator who better represents the words I am now about to quote.

Bobby Kennedy gave a speech. I believe it was at the University of Kansas. He wanted to talk to students and young people. He wanted to talk about the way in which we measure ourselves as a people. It is one of my favorite speeches, and I quote a part of it:

Yet, the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children—

In other words, do we measure how we are doing as a country just by the economic indicators.

Yet, the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage, neither our wisdom nor our learning, neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country. It measures everything, in short, except that which makes life worthwhile. And it can tell us everything about America, except why we are proud that we are Americans.

Mr. President, another speech that Senator Kennedy gave is relevant to our times:

There are millions of Americans living in hidden places whose faces and names we never know, but I've seen children starving in Mississippi, idling their lives away in the ghetto, living without hope or future amid the despair on Indian reservations with no jobs and little help. I've seen proud men in the hills of Appalachia who wish only to work in dignity, but the mines are closed and the jobs are gone and no one, neither industry nor labor nor Government, has cared enough to help. Those conditions will change, those children will live only if we dissent. So I dissent, and I know you do, too.

Interesting words about crime:

Thus, the fight against crime is, in the last analysis, the same as the fight for equal opportunity, or the battle against hunger and deprivation, or the struggle to prevent the pollution of our air and water. It is the fight to preserve the quality of community which is at the root of our greatness, a fight to preserve confidence in ourselves and our fellow citizens, a battle for the quality of our lives.

About the importance of work:

We need jobs, dignified employment at decent pay.

What many today call living-wage jobs.

The kind of employment that lets a man—

And I add, and I am sure Senator Kennedy would add, a woman—

say to his community, to his family, to his country and, most important, to himself [or herself], "I helped to build this country; I'm a participant in this great public venture; I am a man"—

And, I add, "I am a woman."

The importance of work—

Community:

Today, we can make this a nation where young people do not see the false peace of drugs. Together, we can make this a nation where old people are not shunted off, where regardless of the color of his skin or the place of birth of his father, every citizen will have an equal chance at dignity and decency. Together, Americans are the most decent, generous and compassionate people in the world. Divided, they are collections of islands—*islands of blacks afraid of islands of whites; islands of northerners bitterly opposed to islands of southerners, islands of workers warring with islands of businessmen.*

Government:

Governments can err. Presidents do make mistakes, but the immortal Dante tells us that divine justice weighs the sins of the cold-blooded and the sins of the warm-hearted in a different scale. Better the occasional faults of a government living in the spirit of charity than the consistent emissions of a government frozen in the ice of its own indifference.

Courage—I think the pages will especially like this:

It is from numberless, diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up—

Or a woman stands up—

for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

These are really beautiful words.

Mr. President, I had an opportunity about a year ago to travel just to a few communities Senator Kennedy visited. I started out in the delta, Mississippi, and actually just this past Friday, a week ago, I went back to Tunica in the delta, just by myself, mainly to teach classes. I went back because there was a marvelous teacher, Mr. Robert Hall, who said a year ago at a community meeting, "I wish you could come back around graduation time, because only about 50 percent or just a little bit more of our students graduate, and our students need to have more hope."

In Tunica, the public high school is all African-American, and the private schools are all white. So I came back. I landed, and a man named Mr. Young picked me up at the airport. He said, "Before you go to the high school, you will be addressing the third and fourth graders." I say to the Chair, I thought to myself, addressing the third and fourth graders the last day of school, like a policy address? It didn't sound like this was going to work very well.

I went to the elementary school, and the third and fourth graders were all sitting in the auditorium. A principal,

a young man, introduced me, and we were high on the stage. I told the principal, "I think I will not stay on the stage." I went out to where the students were.

This one young girl helped me out so much, because we were talking about education and school and why you like school. She said, "I like it because a good education will help me be all I want to be in my life." Then 40 hands went up at one time. That is a teacher's dream, and these children had all sorts of dreams—doctors, lawyers, psychiatrists, professional wrestlers, boxers, football players—you name it—teachers, on and on and on. I thought to myself, this is what it is about. The only problem is that for too many children, that is the way they start out, and then this just gets taken away from them. The same spark isn't there later on by the time they get to high school.

I then went to East L.A. and to Watts and went to public housing projects in Chicago and inner-city Baltimore and Letcher County, KY, and inner-city Minneapolis, Phillips neighborhood, rural Minnesota. The point is there are heroines, and heroines are doing great work. That is my point.

The other point is, everywhere I went, I really believe—and these are my words, I summarize it—what part of the people were saying with a lot of dignity was, "What happened to our national vow of equal opportunity for every child? We don't have it in our communities." And the jobs—where are the jobs with decent wages? That is what we want to be able to do. Just think about Robert Kennedy's words, about the importance of work. That is what people are saying today. "We want to have jobs at decent wages so that we can earn a decent living and we can give our children the care we know they need and deserve."

Really, Mr. President, as I think about that travel—and travel in any community—this is the focus: On jobs and education, health care, earning a decent living, being able to do well for your children. That is the focus.

Different people think about Senator Kennedy's career, Bobby Kennedy, and what he stood for, and different people in different ways, to try to use that inspiring example to do good work. I want to just raise one question before the Senate today, as I feel that this is very connected to Senator Kennedy's life and what he tried to do for our country. And this is the question. I pose this question for my colleagues and the people in the country: How can it be that in the United States of America today—not June of 1968—June of 1998, how can it be the richest, most affluent country in the world, at the peak of our economic performance—we are all writing about how well the economy is doing—how can it be that we are still being told that we cannot provide a good education for every child, that we cannot provide good health care for all of our citizens, that

people still cannot find jobs at decent wages that they can support their families on, that we cannot at least reach the goal of making sure that every child who comes to kindergarten is ready to learn? She knows how to spell her name; she knows colors and shapes and sizes; she knows the alphabet; she has been read to widely; and she or he is ready to learn. And we are still being told we can't reach those goals as a nation?

And how can it be that in our peak economic performance today, one out of four children under the age of 3 are growing up poor in America—under the age of 3; and one out of every two children of color under the age of 3 are growing up poor in our country? How can this be? How can it be that we have a set of social arrangements that allow children to be the most poverty-stricken group in America? That is a betrayal of our heritage. The impoverishment of so many children is our national disgrace.

I just feel—and I am just speaking for myself—as I think back about Robert Kennedy's life, he would surely say today that this is not acceptable and that we can do better. He would probably say, "We can do better." And I think those words are very important.

One final point, if my colleague would indulge me.

I had a chance to speak at a baccalaureate at Swarthmore College this last weekend. And I was saying to the students—a lot of people have given up on politics. A lot of people, it is not that they don't care about the issues, they care deeply, they care desperately, but they don't think there is much of a connection between their concerns and our concerns. They read all about money in politics, and they just do not think it is that important.

A friend of mine was telling me he was teaching a seminar class on electoral politics, and he was talking about Presidential races and some of his involvement in the past, and students said, "Well, that's when elections mattered." Elections do matter. All of us in public service, I think, believe that, even if we have different viewpoints.

I said to the students—and I want to conclude this way, in just talking with young people, not at young people—that I read—and certainly this was the case in Swarthmore College—an incredibly high percentage of students in our colleges and universities are involved in community service, and also high school students. It is not true that young people do not care about community, do not want to serve our country. There is a tremendous amount of good work being done. The problem is that I think many young people say community service is good and politics is unsavory.

I just say today, on the floor of the Senate, to the young people: We need you to be mentors and tutors. We need your community service. We need you to volunteer at battered women's shelters. If my wife Sheila was here, she

would say, "Mention that, PAUL." We need you to be advocates for children. We need you to help other children. We need you to do community work. When you go on to college and universities and get degrees, and you are lawyers and businesspeople, we need you to take some of your skills and give it to the community. We need you to do that. But we also need you to care about public policy. We need you to care about good public policy, and we need you to make sure that our Nation does better.

Mr. President, I want to say today—since I wanted to take a few minutes to speak about Robert Kennedy and his life, the meaning of that life, to me and I think to many Americans—I think that the final point that I would want to make—feels right to me, at least—is to say, especially to younger people, the future is not going to belong to those who are content with the present. The future is not going to belong to cynics; it is not going to belong to people who stand on the sidelines; it is not going to belong to people who view politics as a spectator sport.

The future is going to belong to people who have passion and people who are willing to make a personal commitment to making our country better. And the future is going to belong—these are not Bobby Kennedy's words; these are Eleanor Roosevelt's words—"The future is going to belong to people who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Bobby Kennedy had many beautiful dreams. His life was cut short, and he was not able to realize all those dreams. But his dreams and his hope and his work for our country is as important to our Nation today as it ever was while he was alive.

I yield the floor.

Mr. JOHNSON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. JOHNSON. I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate for such time as I may consume.

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

TORNADO IN SPENCER, SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I returned Wednesday night from my second tour of what is left of the small community of Spencer, SD, which was devastated, as many know, by a tornado this past Saturday night. Many of you may have seen the media reports and the pictures of the utter destruction in Spencer.

After touring the site for the second time on Wednesday, I can honestly say the pictures simply do not do the site justice, and it is almost impossible to fathom the indiscriminate totality of the destruction.

This tornado, which hit this small town, has been classified as an F4 on the Fujita rating scale of the National Weather Service. The rating means

winds have been estimated between 207 to 260 miles an hour.

As I toured the remains of this small town, the wind literally blew the bark off the trees—what trees still remained standing.

To the community of Spencer, the rating means that the tornado was powerful enough to destroy 80 to 90 percent of their town.

The grain elevator, service station, post office, and library were all destroyed, as were all four churches, an antique store, the fire hall, and water tower. The town had no sewer, water or power.

All that is left of Spencer's 120-foot tall water tower is the crumpled metal on the side of the street with the word "Spencer" written upside down now. A tan car hung suspended 5 feet off the ground in the tower's mangled legs.

The grain spilled from the Spencer Grain Company elevator out onto a field. Spiky tops of tree trunks stuck up out of the ground, their branches stripped of leaves—and furniture, bedding, miscellaneous items stuck in the tree tops of what trees did remain.

Most tragically, the tornado was powerful enough to injure, out of the 300-some in the community, 150 people—almost half the population—and to take the lives of 6.

The victims were Bev Bintliff, Elizabeth Burnham, Mildred Pugh, Gloria Satterlee, Ron Selken, and Irene Yost.

Bev Bintliff was 68, a Spencer native. She and her husband, Robert, moved back to Spencer after living in Oklahoma for a number of years. She worked for several local businesses before becoming the city's finance officer. Her husband is a painter. And they also operated a music shop in the nearby community of Mitchell.

Elizabeth Burnham was 85, lived in Spencer most of her life. She was a widow, and lived alone in her home. She is survived by two daughters.

Mildred Pugh, 93, a widow, moved from her home of 60 years in Spencer to an apartment in the mid-1980s. She was born on the family homestead northeast of Spencer and lived in the area all of her life. Her husband was a rural mail carrier, and she was a homemaker. Friends say that she loved her garden and she loved to deer hunt with her husband. Mildred had lived through other disasters. She survived floods, cyclones, famine, the Depression, wars, but could not survive this tornado. She is survived by a great-nephew, a grandson, and two granddaughters, and a sister.

Ron D. Selken, 62, has been described as a quiet man who enjoyed spending time with his family. Selken was born in 1936. He attended Hawthorne Elementary in Sioux Falls. He served in the Korean War. He worked as a laborer at Gage Bros. Concrete in Sioux Falls until becoming disabled because of back problems. In his spare time, Selken liked to work on his cars, watch sports and fish.

He recently became a grandfather for the third time and tragically did not

get to hold his new granddaughter who was born May 2. On my first trip to the tornado site last Sunday, I met Ron's daughter, Kris Roelfs, of Sibley, Iowa. I have to say, it was a very touching meeting and I felt inadequate that I could only give her my heartfelt condolences. Her father had moved to Spencer about eight years ago from Sioux Falls. In addition to his daughter, Kris, Ron Selken is survived by another daughter, Vicky Selken of Sioux Falls, a son, Kelley of Lake Benton, MN. Three grandchildren, two brothers and four sisters.

Gloria Satterlee, was in her mid 70's and was an organist and pianist at the Nazarene Church where her husband, Ward Sr. has been pastor for the tiny congregation. Reverend Ward Satterlee was hospitalized at Queen of Peace Hospital in Mitchell with broken ribs and cuts but on my second visit to the tornado site yesterday, I had the chance to speak briefly with Ward as he explained his predicament to Vice President GORE.

The Satterlees celebrated their 50th anniversary last year and had lived in Spencer for more than 20 years. Mrs. Satterlee was a homemaker who was interested in music and caring for elderly people. In addition to her husband she is survived by two children one in Kansas and one in northern Minnesota.

Irene Yost, in her mid 70's was retired and living in a downtown apartment complex in Spencer. She had been ailing and had just been getting back on her feet when it happened. She was a lifelong resident of Spencer, and once owned a business establishment in the community, worked as a telephone operator and in a Salem factory and operated a Bingo Gas Station for a number of years.

While we mourn the tragic loss of these people and pray for their families, we are grateful for those who survived. Many descriptions of the terror the residents felt last Saturday night and of different individual's determination to survive have been shared with me personally over the past few days or have been shared with the public through the news media.

Linda Morehead's first thought was, "Oh God don't let it be a tornado." As the tornado hit, Linda tried to open her basement door, but it stuck. She finally got it open and made it down one step when the wall between her dining room and the staircase fell and her roof blew off. She said that the roof flew off like a frisbee then it was all over and that she was down in a pit with stuff all around me like a hill.

Linda was trapped in her home after the storm because her left leg became pinned under cement and a radiator. Her leg was broken in two places and a chunk of flesh was ripped off when the cement was removed by rescue workers. Morehead's arms and shoulders were covered with bruises and cuts, but her face was untouched. As rain and marble-sized hail began to fall while