

In having this honor bestowed upon them, Jodie, Kaitlin, Jessie, Sara, and Michelle have shown that they are dedicated and committed to these qualities, and, just as important, that they enjoy what they are doing. For their parents, family and friends, this is a proud moment—and, as a Mainer, I share this feeling.

To reach this goal a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer. All of the girls throughout the United States who have earned this award have fulfilled a personal goal which will benefit them in the years to come.

For their project, Jodie Comer, Michelle McLaughlin, and Sara Agouab researched, designed, and produced a booklet on auto care and maintenance for women. In addition, they put on an auto care workshop for cadette and senior Girl Scouts. Kaitlin Coffin and Jessie Mellott produced a video to help recruit and retain younger girls in Girl Scouting.

I have always been, and will continue to be, supportive of the Girl Scouts and recognize the important values that it instills in young people, such as service, honesty and leadership. By helping to form the character of young women, the Girl Scouts makes a lasting contribution on the lives of people throughout Maine and the United States.

I know that my Senate colleagues join me in offering my congratulations to these young women for what they have accomplished. This prestigious award is a testament to their convictions and individual commitment to serve those in their community for the betterment of society.●

#### TEENAGE TRAGEDY

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the city of Detroit is grieving over the loss of Cody High School sophomore Darryl Towns, who was fatally shot just days before his sixteenth birthday. Darryl was murdered in his own backyard over a minor dispute that eventually turned into a major tragedy. What started off as a fist fight between life long friends ended up in murder: three fatal shots with a semiautomatic pistol.

Now, Darryl's community is left in shock as they grieve over the "foolish" and "senseless" death of their friend, known among many as a "respectful," "responsible" young man. Friends and parents are forced to ask the troubling question: If a person like Darryl, who stayed out of trouble, isn't safe from gun violence, who among our teens is safe? Unfortunately, there is no one who can answer that question or predict the future. Yet, common sense

tells us that the widespread proliferation of guns will only result in additional tragedies like Darryl's.

I urge my colleagues to take up a meaningful debate on gun safety and end the easy access to weapons that results in the destruction of so many young lives. I submit for the RECORD a letter printed in the Detroit Free Press, written to Darryl's mother, Annette Towns, expressing sympathy over such a difficult loss.

The letter follows.

[From the Detroit Free Press, Sept. 15, 1999]

MOTHERS: TEACH SONS ABOUT LOVE, GUNS  
(By Kim Kingston)

Darryl Towns, 15, died senselessly and tragically on Sept. 9 ("Slaying questioned: One teen in custody is a childhood friend," Sept. 11). Many of us knew of him only as "the baby." Most of us knew him through the stories from a mother's heart—of trials and tribulations, and the joys and challenges of trying to raise a son up right.

Some of us knew only his voice, as it changed over the years from that of a soft-spoken boy to that of a man, calling his mom every evening at work, just to check in. His mama was always saying with a glitter of pride in her eye: "He's such a good and responsible boy." Fifteen years of love and dedication were ripped away in an instant by a senseless act, so very irreversible.

For every mother of every son, teach your sons the magnitude of a mother's love, and how guns lead to the destruction of so many lives—but none so insurmountable as that of a mother's anguish at the loss of her son.

Guns have no place in untrained hands—your hand or my hands—let alone in the emotionally charged squabbles of teenaged boys. The only ones powerful enough to stop it are the young men themselves—young men like Darryl, who stood apart from some of his peers. He didn't carry a gun. He tried to do what was right.

If his death could change the heart of just one boy, then he would not have died in vain.

To Annette, his Mother: We, your friends at work, want to thank you for sharing a part of your dear son with us through your eyes.

To Darryl, forever "Mama's Baby": We dedicate you to a better, safer place in the loving arms of your Creator.●

#### U.S. JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, each week, each of us meets with dozens, even hundreds, of constituents from our home States. For some States, thousands of constituents will travel to Washington to advocate positions on issues of concern. Being a Senator representing a sparsely populated States means meeting with everyone of those constituents who visits the Capitol. It is always good to see the folks from home.

Two weeks ago was old home week for me. It was a special time for me to reminisce about my service in the Jaycees. The Jaycees—now called the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce—State presidents held a meeting in the Nations' Capitol to talk about their organization's priorities. Debra Jennings, State president of the Wyoming Junior Chamber of Commerce, and Larry Wostenberg, the sole

candidate for next year's State president of the Wyoming Junior Chamber of Commerce, were in town and I was fortunate to meet with them.

I'm a former Wyoming State Jaycee president. I served in 1973-74. That year and the activities that led to that year played a big role in forming my leadership skills. I took leadership classes, then I taught leadership classes.

As president, I emphasized that the Jaycees was not a service organization. The Jaycees were and are a leadership organization. The purpose has been and is to teach young people leadership skills. Members participate in the complete service projects to learn leadership skills.

My first project was a Christmas shopping tour. We raised money in order to take kids recommended by welfare shopping to buy presents for the other members of their families. We picked them up at their home. We took them shopping, took them to a restaurant where they wrapped the packages and had a little celebration, and then delivered them home. We also spent the year gathering toys, repairing them, and purchasing additional toys that were given to the kids we took on the shopping tour. Through activities such as the shopping tour, I developed leadership skills that helped me move up in the ranks within the Wyoming Jaycees—first as a committee chairman, then the local president, and State chaplain.

At one point in my experience, we noticed that many young businessmen were devoting so much time to the Jaycees that it was breaking up their families. I was part of a project for having one night a week devoted to families and family discussion. The name of that program, which became a national program, was "Family Life." I spent a year traveling to chapters and State meetings extolling the virtues of strong families. It is my understanding that 25 years later the program is still intact and still being conducted.

Another favorite program of that time was one called "Do Something." It could just as easily have been labeled "Do Anything." Chapters across the Nation were encouraged to survey their community, figure out what needed to be done and do it. They were encouraged not to do formal surveys. They were encouraged to have each Jaycee ask his neighbors and the people in his community what they thought the community needed, then to do it. The emphasis was on talking to each other, then taking action, and it worked. Never underestimate the ability of young people to achieve. Remember they haven't had enough experience to know yet what can't be done. As a result they find that anything can be done and they do it. Most of them haven't been taught yet that only government can get things done. So, they learn first hand that only individuals working together get things done.

Jaycees gave me my start in politics in a strange way. I was a businessman