

Q. It is said about domestic violence that these kinds of attitudes cross all socioeconomic boundaries. Is that the same at the teenage level?

A. Absolutely. I find the audiences will be more outspoken in certain groups than in others but they're saying the same thing. The only difference is that if you're growing up in a society where violence is something you're seeing in the streets and you're seeing it at home and you're seeing it at school and you don't feel safe anywhere, safety planning takes a whole new meaning. It's pretty meaningless to talk to a 16-year-old girl who has grown up with violence and sees it when she walks down the street, "You need to leave your boyfriend and get safe." Where is she going to get safe? There has to be a more communitywide response. We need to work very hard to help her find someone in her life who is safe.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER SENATOR MAURINE NEUBERGER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOBSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, along with my colleagues, I, too, want to recognize Maurine Neuberger. The State of Oregon has lost a great friend recently when former Senator Maurine Neuberger lost her battle with cancer at age 94. We lost a true pioneer when Maurine passed away. She was an advocate, a leader, and a great woman.

Mr. Speaker, I was very fortunate to know this woman. She was an inspiration to me. There are so many wonderful stories about her, but I would just like to mention a couple.

Her mother was a dairy farmer, yet she took on the dairy farmers, and she said, when they outlawed making margarine yellow, so you have this white lard piece, one day on the floor of the House she demonstrated to all of her male colleagues how to make it yellow with food coloring in it, and stirred it around. She took on the dairy farmers again, though her mother was a dairy farmer, and she won that battle.

She also made a real splash in the papers when her husband was serving in the U.S. Senate. The Democrats were doing a fundraiser. They asked the Democratic wives if they would come and model clothes from their home State. Maurine, who was in very good state, modeled a swimsuit from Jansen's swim wear. There were photographs of her all over the United States. When asked the question why she chose to wear that, she said, that is what I wear when I go swimming.

She was a wonderful woman, and there are wonderful stories about this woman, but none more than what she accomplished during her one and only term in the U.S. Senate.

After her husband, U.S. Senator Richard Neuberger's, sudden death in 1959, Maurine Neuberger ran for and won her late husband's seat in the U.S. Senate. She became only the second woman in the entire country to be elected to the U.S. Senate, and the

only woman from Oregon who has ever served in the U.S. Senate.

During her tenure in the United States Senate, she became famous for her fighting spirit and tireless crusade on behalf of consumer rights. She was always looking out for the consumer, for public health, campaign finance reform, some of these still sound familiar, civil rights, and environmental conservation. She also played a critical role in President Johnson's war on poverty.

She became known as a principled consensus-builder with the political will to tackle the country's most pressing problems. After cancer took her husband's life, Maurine Neuberger led the fight in the Senate to put warning labels on all the cigarette packages, so when we read those today, that the Surgeon General has determined smoking may be hazardous to our health, she wrote that and made that happen.

At the time of her fight against the tobacco companies in the early sixties, her efforts were considered bold and radical first steps in educating the public on the dangers of smoking.

Senator Maurine Neuberger epitomized what public service is all about. We are going to miss her in this State. Again, she was a role model for the Nation. If all of us would just follow in her footsteps, we would have a better Nation.

THE HIGH COST OF HEALTH INSURANCE AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I had a group of small business people in my office. One of the concerns that they talked about was the high cost of health insurance. Recently, I have had several meetings with senior citizens. One of the things they talk about is the high cost of prescription drugs. The two issues are related, whether we realize it or not.

Over the last 4 years, for example, the cost of prescription drugs in the United States has gone up by 56 percent. In fact, in the last year alone, the cost of prescription drugs here in the United States has gone up by 16 percent. One of the reasons that health insurance costs are going up so much in the last year or two here in the United States is the cost of prescription drugs.

While we are talking about what we can do to make prescription drugs more available to seniors through Medicare, it seems to me we also have to be looking at why is it that prescription drugs are so expensive in the United States.

I have been doing some research. I have gotten a lot of help from my friends, some friends at the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Senior Foundation. We have heard a lot about these bus trips that are going up into

Canada to buy drugs. The more I have studied it, the more I realize that we in the United States are paying far too much for prescription drugs.

I believe in a reasonable profit. I do not believe in additional government regulation. But I also do not believe that we should be taken for fools by the large prescription drug companies.

Let me give some examples. One of the most commonly prescribed drugs in the United States is a drug called Prilosec. Prilosec is given to people who have ulcer conditions and some other acid reflux conditions and so forth. A 30-day supply of Prilosec in Minneapolis, Minnesota, sells for \$99.50. That same drug made in exactly the same plant with the same FDA approval in Winnipeg, Manitoba, sells for \$50.88. That is a tremendous bargain. Interestingly enough, that same drug in Guadalajara, Mexico, made in exactly the same plant under exactly the same FDA approval, sells for \$17.50.

Mr. Speaker, it really is time for Congress to do what we thought we did with the North American Free Trade Agreement. That is to open up our borders. My vision is that American consumers, and particularly seniors, could go to their local pharmacy with their local pharmacist who could set up a correspondent relationship with a pharmaceutical supply house in either Canada or Mexico, and ultimately we would force the drug companies to allow Americans to enjoy world market prices for prescription drugs.

Let me give some more examples of commonly-prescribed drugs. I might say to Members, this is available. Just call my office. This is a newsletter that was put out by an independent group called the Life Extension Foundation, the title of which is, "Are We to Become Serfs of the Drug Monopoly?"

They talk about what is happening here in the United States compared to the rest of the world in terms of the prices we pay for prescription drugs. For example, a commonly-prescribed drug, Synthroid, in the United States, a 30-day supply sells for an average of \$13.84. That same prescription for exactly the same drug made in exactly the same plant in Europe sells for \$2.95.

Coumadin, which is a drug my dad has to take, it is a blood thinner. In the United States, coumadin, the average price for a 30-day supply is \$30.25. In Europe, that same drug made by the same company in the same plant with the same FDA approval sells for \$2.85.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the Congress to take action. The first thing I would recommend Members to do is call my office and we will send them out a copy of this newsletter. They can find out for themselves the difference we see in prescription drugs.

Secondly, I would ask Members to sign on to my bill, H.R. 3240, which simply allows for the importation of drugs into the United States without FDA intervention, drugs that are currently approved by the FDA.

Mr. Speaker, do not take my word for it. Actually, the Canadian government