

Peter Brown, an editor at the "Orlando Sentinel" conducted a study that discovered a profound cultural disconnect between journalists and readers. He found that reporters are far more likely than other Americans to approve of abortion on demand, to express disdainful attitudes towards the suburbs and rural areas, and to identify strongly with people who see themselves as victims of society. They are also less likely to go to church or do volunteer work in their communities.

But what is the answer? We need to tell the media, give us the facts, and let us make up our own mind.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT UNDER MEDICARE IS WHAT SENIORS WANT

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we speak right now, outside of this Chamber, our senior citizens who have come here begging us for some relief for the high cost of prescription drugs, they are telling us about how they are spending all of their money, rather than being able to buy the nutritious food or put a decent roof over their head, they are struggling to pay for the drugs that they need. We have only a few days left to provide real relief. A prescription drug benefit under Medicare is what they want.

Now we are talking about reimportation of lower-cost drugs from Canada. That is fine. Let us do that. Although, I have to tell my colleagues, it is pretty crazy that we have to rely on the Canadian Government who puts some controls on the cost of drugs, the cost they are willing to pay, and we as Americans have to go and buy those same American-made drugs from the Canadians because we do not do anything to control the cost.

Senior citizens need help. Let us get a prescription drug benefit under Medicare.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR AMERICA'S SENIORS IS IMPORTANT

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, prescription drug coverage for America's seniors is important. Our two parties differ, however.

Republicans believe in choice, not government control. Americans themselves can always make decisions that best meet their individuals needs. On the other hand, Democrats believe government, not individuals, make the best decisions for all people in every circumstance.

The Clinton-Gore administration's prescription drug proposals are total government control. Vice President

GORE claims to have a recipe of hopes and promises. But when we get in the kitchen, we discover it is the same old concoction of government ingredients and bureaucratic spices. One can present it any way one wants to, but one knows it still tastes the same, it still smells the same. It is not good.

We need a prescription drug benefit under Medicare that offers seniors real choices without government control. Americans do not want, need, or deserve any more Hillary care.

SHAME ON THE CONGRESS FOR NOT TAKING ACTION ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

(Mr. FARR of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to admonish this country, it is a shame that we are here talk, talk, talk, and not doing anything about prescription drugs.

My daughter recounted to me a story last Saturday night when she was in a pharmacy at midnight on Saturday night, to pick up some pain medicine. She told me that the people waiting in line there were limited English speaking, about eight families.

One of the gentlemen was pleading with the pharmacist to sell him at least two of the pills that were prescribed, he could not afford the whole package, because his infant daughter was sick and needed these prescription drugs. But the pharmacist would not sell the drugs to him because he could not buy the entire package, the entire dosage which the doctors recommend.

He said, "I cannot afford it. Give me two now, and I will come back in a couple of days and buy the rest of them." It went on and on, and the pharmacist would not sell it because the process would not allow them to do it, and the person could not afford the drugs. He was in tears, as any parent would be.

Shame on America that we cannot take care of people; we cannot even disburse those drugs that have been prescribed because people cannot pay for them. Shame on the drug companies. Shame on the process. Shame on Congress for not correcting it.

THIS ADMINISTRATION NOT CONNECTED WHEN IT COMES TO EDUCATION

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, now we have from the Gore-Clinton administration the formula for turning around education. This was revealed on September 7, 2000, by the Secretary of Education, Richard Riley, and I quote: "What we need are the three R's in education: relationships, resilience, and readiness."

Now, is not that odd, because back home in Georgia, none of the parents

or teachers have come to me and said, what we really need is resilience in education. Somehow their idea of the three R's is a little bit different. We need local control of education. We need parental involvement. We need the money going to the teacher in the classroom, not the bureaucrats in Washington. We need safe campuses.

No wonder the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), a Democrat Congressman, said January 10, 2000, and I quote directly: "I sit on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and I have witnessed the failure of this administration and AL GORE to do enough to address our Nation's education needs."

Well, I agree with the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), my Democrat colleague. It does not appear that this administration is connected when it comes to education.

UNITED STATES RANKS NEAR BOTTOM IN EDUCATION COMPARED TO INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I have an obscenity to share with the Members of the House. For the 8 years that the Clinton-Gore administration has possessed the White House, they have squandered their opportunity to fix education in America.

The Third International Math and Science Study comparison compared 21 industrialized countries around the world in math and science. Let me read the list of countries that outperform the United States: Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Iceland, Norway, France, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Austria, Slovenia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Russia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic.

After the United States comes two countries: Cyprus and South Africa.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we rank near the bottom when compared to industrial countries around the world in education.

Republicans have a different message. Stop squandering opportunity in the White House. Get dollars to the classroom. Get money to the teachers, the administrators, the school board members who know the names of our children. Stop wasting billions on a huge bureaucracy here in Washington, D.C. that cannot teach.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH ACT OF 2000

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 594 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 594

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the