

the Congressional Record revisions to the revenue aggregates for fiscal years 2001–2005 to reflect a portion of that increase in the surplus.

Revised Appropriate Levels of Federal Revenues in the Congressional Budget Resolution
(In billions of dollars)

Fiscal year	Federal revenues
2001	1,496.9
2002	1,519.8
2003	1,572.1
2004	1,619.1
2005	1,680.3

Questions may be directed to Dan Kowalski at 67270.

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

(Mr. SKELTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ 2000

WHY HORRIBLE CRIMES ARE BEING COMMITTED

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the terrible tragedy of the school shootings 2 days ago in California should be, and I believe is, of great concern to all Americans.

There are many reasons why these horrible crimes are being committed in several places by teenage boys, but I want to mention two major concerns I have.

I was a criminal court judge in Tennessee for 7½ years before coming to Congress trying felony criminal cases. I was told the first day that I was judge that 98 percent of the defendants in felony criminal cases came from broken homes.

I know that millions of wonderful people have come from broken homes, but almost all would say that family breakups made their childhoods much more difficult.

I know, too, that divorce is now a tragedy that has touched almost every family, and I know that many times it cannot be avoided. But I do not know of anyone who hoped beforehand that their marriage would end in divorce.

During my years as a judge, I went through approximately 10,000 cases, because 97 percent or 98 percent of the defendants pled guilty and apply for probation or other considerations. I would get 10-page or 12-page reports that went into the backgrounds and life histories of the defendants before me.

I would read over and over and over again things like defendant's father left when defendant was 2 and never returned, or defendant's father left to get a pack of cigarettes and never came back.

Unfortunately, millions of fathers have left their families, not realizing, I

suppose, the great harm they are doing to their children.

Of course, many times it is the woman who wants the divorce, but this special order today is as much as anything a plea for families to try to stay together, if at all possible, at least until their children mature.

One of the greatest blessings you can give to any child, especially a small child, is a two-parent home.

I could not help but notice that the boy who did the school shootings in California came from a broken home and had recently been moved from one side of the country to the other.

The Federal Government bears a big part of the responsibility for all of these broken homes. Studies show that most marriages break up in arguments over finances, over money. For most of our history, government took a very low percentage of family income. In 1950, government took only about 8 percent to 10 percent. Today Federal, State and local taxes take almost 40 percent of the average family's income. Government regulatory costs that are passed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices take another 10 percent.

One Member of the other body said that today one spouse works to support the family while the other spouse has to work to support government.

Also, the giant Federal welfare state, which even former President Clinton described as a colossal failure, has helped contribute to the broken home situation. But if government at all levels would take less money from families, of course, it would not end divorce, but it would certainly mean that thousands of families that now split up would stay together.

Also, for families that have already broken up, I hope other family members will do all they can to fill the void in time and attention.

One article I saw about the boy who did the California shootings described him as a typical latchkey child.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago or 3 years ago, after another one of these tragic school shootings, I remember listening to the CBS national news and hearing the national head of the YMCA say that children in this country today are being neglected like never before.

I hope this is not true. But the YMCA has not released some statistics reporting that nearly 8 million children are left alone after school between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00, which just happens to coincide with the peak hours for juvenile crime.

The families need more money, so there will not be as many broken homes. We need to lower taxes at every level so that we can strengthen families, but children need a lot more than money. What they need most is love and time and attention.

My second concern is the movement towards bigger schools. I saw an article in the Christian Science Monitor a couple of years ago which said the largest school in New York City had 3,500 stu-

dents. Then they broke it up into five separate schools, and their drug and discipline problem went way down.

Mr. Speaker, there are some exceptions, but in most places class sizes have been brought down to smaller or at least manageable size. However, going to bigger, more centralized schools meant that many young people felt like anonymous numbers or could not make a sports team or be a leader in some other school activity.

Also some very large high schools seem to have been breeding grounds for strange or even dangerous behavior.

Augusta Kappner, our former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, wrote recently in USA Today that good things happen when large schools are remade into smaller ones. She said incidents of violence are reduced; students' performance, attendance and graduation rates improve; disadvantaged students significantly outperform those in large schools on standardized tests; students of all social classes and races are treated more equitably; teachers, students and the local community prefer them.

Mr. Speaker, students are better off going to smaller schools even in older buildings than they are in these big, giant schools where they just feel like anonymous numbers.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor tonight in celebration of National Women's History Month, the month of March.

I come here to salute the women in this country. This month is unique to me, particularly because Sonoma County, in my district, is the birthplace of the National Women's History Project, the nonprofit educational organization that is responsible for establishing Women's History Month.

In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the status of women, which I happened to be chair at that particular time, initiated a Women's History Week. Later in 1987, with the help of museums, libraries and educators across the country, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the celebration to the entire month of March.

Mr. Speaker, a resolution recognizing Women's History Month was quickly passed with strong bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. Although the month of March gained this distinction about 20 years ago, and a lot has happened since then, we still have a lot of work ahead of us.

When we celebrate women and when we look at women and children and the challenges ahead, we must do more for women and we must do more for families.

We must do more for our communities and for our Nation, and one place