

We recognized these facts in 1996, by passing the Defense of Marriage Act overwhelmingly, and reiterating the traditional understanding of what marriage is. Now, by decisions of our courts, concerns have been raised again, and I believe that it is the duty of the Senate to reexamine and, if necessary, reaffirm this important determination.

The great Sam Houston, whose seat I am honored to hold in this body, once said:

The time is fast arising when facts must be submitted in their simplest dress.

I believe that time is now. The facts deserve examination and, if necessary, action.

The question before us now is whether the popular and bipartisan legislation known as the Defense of Marriage Act will remain the law of the land as the people and, most particularly, the Representatives of this body intend, or whether we will be undermined or overturned by the courts.

As many in this body have stated in the past, the Founders could not have anticipated that our Nation would ever reach the point where marriage would ever require such definition.

But neither could they have anticipated the method through which the courts would unilaterally upend our Nation's laws, reading penumbras, emanations, and "sweet mysteries of life" into the legal text as justification for overturning legislative acts.

On an issue as fundamental as marriage, I believe it is the job of the American people, through their Representatives, to decide. We should not abandon this issue to the purview of the courts alone. Some have suggested a legislative answer. Others have suggested a constitutional amendment is needed. In any case, we must consider what steps are now needed to protect and safeguard the traditional understanding of marriage as defined in the Defense of Marriage Act.

Toward that end, I will convene a hearing of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution, which I chair, in the first week after we return from the August recess to find out what steps, if any, are required to uphold the Defense of Marriage Act and the congressional intent as embodied in that measure. I hope my colleagues, including the bipartisan majority who overwhelmingly supported the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996, will join me in these efforts.

Perhaps no legislative or constitutional response is needed to reinforce the status quo. And if it is clear that no action is required, so be it. But I believe that we must take care to do whatever it takes to ensure that the principles defined in the Defense of Marriage Act remain the law of the land.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

DEATH OF WILLIAM R. BRIGHT

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, our Nation mourns the loss of Bill Bright, a visionary who founded Campus Crusade for Christ more than 50 years ago.

Bill died last week at his Orlando home from pulmonary fibrosis at the age of 81. In his lifetime, he spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of people across the world.

I met Bill Bright long before my nephew went to work for Campus Crusade more than 10 years ago. I was in awe of both Bill and his wife, Vonette, for their unwavering commitment to communicating the love of Jesus Christ.

You see, in an amazing act of faith, Bill and Vonette signed a pact with God more than five decades ago—and agreed to leave the business world and the making of money to devote their lives to spreading the Gospel.

Not long after that, in 1951, they began Campus Crusade. The goal, at the time, was to preach the Gospel to students at the University of California at Los Angeles. But God had other plans. The Campus Crusade movement soon spread to other campuses in the United States and eventually around the globe. Today, it is one of the world's major ministries and serves people in 191 countries with a staff of 26,000 full-time employees and more than 225,000 trained volunteers.

Indeed, I would dare say that Campus Crusade has touched the lives not only of students—but the poor and oppressed on every continent, and leadership on every level of society.

Bill Bright's life reflected Christ and proclaimed him boldly. He made an eternal impact on our Nation and our world.

In the 1970s, Bill came up with the popular "I Found It!" signs to signify that "it" was faith in Jesus. He later released a film, called "Jesus," which was a feature length motion picture on the life of Jesus of Nazareth. That film has been seen by millions of people and translated into many languages.

Throughout it all, Bill remained a humble man, simply doing the Lord's work. In 1996, he was awarded the prestigious Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion. That award came with a \$1 million gift. Bill donated all of the money to causes promoting the spiritual benefits of fasting and prayer.

He was, indeed, a true servant of God—a man who lived a life that all of us can admire and strive to emulate.

When I heard of his passing, I recalled something Bill said two years ago when Campus Crusade marked its 50th anniversary . . . "A follower of Jesus Christ can't lose," he said. "If we live, we go on serving. That's an adven-

ture. If we die, we're in heaven with him, and that's incredible."

I imagine somewhere high up in heaven, Bill Bright is having an incredible, miraculous adventure. God bless him!

His words made me think of the book of Revelation on the Bible, in the 7th chapter, which reads, "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within his temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

My thoughts and prayers are with my dear friend Vonette, their two sons, and the entire Campus Crusade family.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

JUDICIAL NOMINEES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we have had a lot of discussion about judicial nominees recently. One issue is on the DC Circuit Court of Appeals.

I mention that because at the time when President Clinton nominated highly qualified people to go there, my friends on the other side said the workload was such that the DC Circuit Court of Appeals didn't need extra judges. So they were never given a hearing, never given a vote. One of those nominees is now the dean of the Harvard Law School. In fact, the chief judge, as I recall, a Reagan appointee, said they definitely didn't need more judges; they didn't have the workload. He took that position consistently throughout President Clinton's term.

Now we have a new President. The workload has gone down in that court. But we have several people suddenly nominated for the seats that just a few months ago were unneeded, we were told, by all the Republican leadership. We were told by the Republican leadership on this very political court that we didn't need anybody. Suddenly we need somebody.

The interesting thing about that is the Washington Post, which has been very supportive—more supportive than most newspapers in the country—of President Bush's judicial nominees, no matter who they are, took a different position. Even that paper, which has basically given in many ways—and it is their right—a blank check to the administration, wrote an editorial this morning called "Fueling the Fire." They basically ask what I have: What is the sudden change?

I ask unanimous consent that editorial be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Aug. 1, 2003]

FUELING THE FIRE

In nominating people to fill the last two seats on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the