

revoking NTR will hurt those that we are seeking to help. I believe it is more effective for the U.S. to address our human rights abuses through the diplomatic perspective. Support NTR.

House of Representatives
(July 29, 1999)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 260 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2587.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Pitts).

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. Tiaht). If all else fails, look to the evidence in a place where such a policy has already been attempted. Let us look at the Vancouver experiment.

The Vancouver needle exchange program is one of the largest in the world, distributing 2\1/2\ million needles in the last year alone. Well, instead of decreasing the rate of HIV and AIDS in Vancouver, the HIV rate among needle exchange participants is even higher than the rate among injecting drug users who do not participate. How can that be called successful? And we want to emulate that here?

The death rate due to illegal drugs in Vancouver has also skyrocketed since the program began, and the highest rates of poverty crime in Vancouver are within two blocks of the needle exchange.

At the very least, the available scientific studies in no way conclude that a program which enables drug users can simultaneously seek to end their destructive habit and help them to stop shooting up. In fact, it looks as though the opposite is true.

In the words of the drug czar, Barry McCaffrey, we owe our children, and that includes the children of D.C., an unambiguous no-use message, end quote. We must offer users a way out, not another crutch. In our Nation's capital, Washington, D.C., let us not send a mixed message to our Nation's youth for illegal drug use.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

(House of Representatives - July 29, 1999)

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1\3/4\ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Pitts).

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chairman, the Mexico City Smith amendment has changed drastically over the years. All it does now is it prevents subsidizing lobbying activities in foreign countries. It is called the Foreign Families Protection Amendment.

As millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars flow to developing nations for the purpose of population control, it is critical that we refrain from paternalistically injecting our own penchant for abortions into these Nations. With the degree that we in this Nation disagree on the subject of abortion, it is not, at the very least, appropriate that we refrain from providing U.S. taxpayer funds to organizations that lobby for abortions overseas.