

H. Res. 235

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

November 13, 2001.

Whereas the Jerusalem Fund has launched a Words Can Heal Campaign on September 4, 2001, to reduce verbal violence and gossip and to promote the value and practice of ethical speech in order improve our democracy, build mutual respect, honor, and dignity in our country;

Whereas words used unfairly, whether expressed through excessive anger, unfair criticism, public and private humiliation, bigoted comments, cruel jokes, or rumors and malicious gossip, can traumatize and damage many lives;

Whereas an unwillingness or inability of many parents to control what they say when angry causes the infliction of potentially damaging verbal abuse on many children;

Whereas bigoted words are often used to dehumanize entire religious, racial, and ethnic groups, and can inflame hostility;

Whereas the spreading of negative and often unfair, untrue, or exaggerated comments or rumors about others often inflicts irrevocable damage on the victim of such rumors;

Whereas the Words Can Heal Campaign will raise awareness regarding the damage that can be caused by destructive language; and

Whereas the House of Representatives supports the goals of the Words Can Heal Campaign: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the House of Representatives supports the goals of the Words Can Heal Campaign; and

(2) the President should issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to support the goals of such campaign with appropriate programs and activities.

Attest:

Clerk.