

OFFICIAL REPORT (HANSARD)

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Child Care

Ms. Ruby Dhalla (Brampton—Springdale, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, Canadian families are in for a real shock when they fill out their tax returns and realize the \$100 a month baby bonus is actually taxable. A two income family in Ontario, each person earning \$40,000, will have to pay back the government \$31 a month per child.

That is a third of the money Canadian parents have already spent. My question is for the Prime Minister. How much money is the Prime Minister planning to make on their backs by taxing kids? Canadian parents want to know.

Hon. Monte Solberg (Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, I can guarantee one thing, which is that Canadian families today are a lot better off because this Prime Minister and this finance minister moved to introduce the universal child care benefit that goes to 1.4 million families on behalf of 1.9 million children.

Do we know what the real shame is? What is the real shame is that the leader of the Liberal Party has stated unequivocally that he would take that money away from Canadian families. That is a disgrace.

Ms. Ruby Dhalla (Brampton—Springdale, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, what is a real shame is that the government has not created a single child care space for the children of Canada. Let me tell members how much profit on the backs of Canadian families the Prime Minister is going to make: \$224 million from his so-called choice for parents and a \$400 million profit from cancelling the youth child supplement.

That is \$624 million, and Canadian parents do not have a single child care space, not one. When is the Prime Minister going to get the job done and start creating child care spaces?

(1435)

Hon. Monte Solberg (Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, if the Liberals ever came back to power, God forbid, they would take away \$10 billion from Canadian families by removing the--

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!

The Speaker:

Order. The Minister of Human Resources has the floor. I know his statements are very popular, but we have to be able to hear what the minister is saying. He has the floor. Order, please.

Hon. Monte Solberg:

Mr. Speaker, the Liberal record on this is very clear. In their time in power, the Liberals refused to consider the idea that parents knew what was good for their children. That is why they opposed the universal child care benefit. That is why the leader of the Liberal Party has said that he would take that away from families. If he succeeds, that will be \$10 billion taken away from Canadian families over the next five years.

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