



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A recent study by the Parents Television Council
3 indicated a jump in profanity in virtually every network and
4 every time slot, finding that foul language increased during
5 the 8 to 9 p.m. "family hour" by 94.8% between 1998 and 2002
6 and during the 9 to 10 p.m. hour by 109% in the same period; and

7 WHEREAS, The Parents Television Council said the
8 television industry needs to get serious about reducing the
9 flood of vulgarity coming into homes via television; and

10 WHEREAS, According to Syracuse University Professor Robert
11 Thompson:

12 Once prime-time television decides to absorb something, it
13 becomes a stamp of normalcy. It's no longer controversial.
14 It's no longer a big deal. It makes it a casual, accepted
15 sort of thing;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, According to P.M. Forni, cofounder of the Civility
18 Project at Johns Hopkins University:

19 Very often, rudeness and cursing are the beginning of an
20 escalation toward violence. Words, our words, are like our
21 hands. They can soothe and heal, but they can also strike,
22 which means they can hurt;
23 therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
25 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
26 urge the Federal Communications Commission and major
27 television networks to curb or eliminate the growing amount of
28 profanity on television, especially during the "family hour";
29 and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to

1 the Federal Communications Commission, to the major television
2 networks, and to each member of the Illinois congressional
3 delegation.