

## Editorial

### *Why Newt Gingrich is finished*

More and more Americans are coming to recognize the similarities between the Speaker of the House and America's other Dr. Death, Jack Keivorkian. To be fair to Jack, his victims are still numbered in the tens, whereas Newt is planning to terminate the lives of a huge section of the elderly population in the United States by his measures to severely curtail their access to adequate medical treatment; Social Security is also scheduled for the chopping block, if he prevails.

It is reassuring that the temporary insanity which allowed American voters to bring the gaggle of home-grown fascists into the Congress in the last election, appears to be abating. Polls show conclusively that Americans are solidly behind President Clinton in opposing this lunacy, which he has aptly dubbed the contract *on* America. Yet it is still extraordinary that decent human beings could have endorsed the criminal idea that financial concerns—in this instance cutting the budget deficit—should have priority over human life.

What does it mean to consign the elderly and the supposedly terminally ill, to a death with "dignity," i.e., without investment in prolonging their life? After all, every human being is ultimately a "terminal case." It is but a short step from the fiscal concerns to which Gingrich and his supporters give priority, and Hitler's policies to get rid of "useless eaters" and the ethnic groups that he despised.

The neo-conservatives who wish to do away with social benefits for the poor, would in fact force people who presently get a bare subsistence from welfare benefits, into situations as grim as those in the Nazi labor camps which led inexorably to the death camps. How can it be then, that the American people were willing to vote for the political supporters of an aspiring mass murderer like Dr. Death Gingrich, and his SS congressional gang? That this could happen, that a Gingrich could have even temporary credibility, testifies to a moral decline in the population.

Americans have allowed themselves to be fooled into accepting their degradation as liberation. No long-

er are we to be guided by the moral values of our forefathers, which are expressed in the U.S. Constitution and which explicitly endorse the responsibility of all citizens not only to their fellow Americans now alive, and to be born in the future, but to all humanity, to the posterity of all nations.

Forget this, and the next step is to allow the destruction of those values that are the bedrock of a viable civilization. Replace the norm of the child-centered family, by a hedonistic notion that anything goes as long as it is fun, and the young and the elderly will no longer be cherished.

It is a brutal reality today that it is barely possible for two working adults to support the physical well-being of children born to them, far less provide them with an appropriately nurturing environment in which they can develop their human potential. The elderly, as well as the young, are victims of the destruction of the family. No longer supportable by their families, the indigent elderly are to be forced to early death, if the satanical priesthood of the balanced budget has its way.

Poor or rich, the elderly are being deprived of their rightful role as guides and teachers for the society of which they are still a part. Instead, those fortunate enough to still have financial means are supposed to retire to some hedonistic existence, outside of the mainstream of life. And more and more individuals fully capable of maintaining a productive working life are being defined as *seniors*, and forced into early retirement in a form of barely disguised unemployment. Thus, the entire fabric of society is being destroyed.

A society which does not cherish its elderly will not protect its young; and its capability to reproduce itself will accordingly be destroyed. American voters are rejecting Newt Gingrich, but they must also reject the assumptions which they had accepted over the years, regarding those petty, hedonistic values which they have come increasingly to accept, over the past 30-odd years.