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Boost foreign aid

In a few months there will be a new administration running this country and I have yet to hear either side talk about how world poverty creates instability and promotes economic chaos.

The best way to defeat terrorism and the fundamentalism that breeds it is with secular schools, medicine and economic support.

One and a half billion people live on less than \$1.25 a day. Imagine the fertile grounds organized terrorist groups have to work with when parents have to make the soul-crushing choice of feeding their children, giving them medicine when they are sick or sending them to school. What if we had to make that type of choice for our children in the United States?

In 2000, the United States made a commitment, along with six other industrialized nations, to give 0.7 percent of our gross national product to foreign aid each year. We are currently giving only 0.16 percent.

I believe fighting terrorism through generosity is a much more powerful way to make a better world and promote our American values.

**Bill Nicholson
Martinez**