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Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

Justice

Ms. Dianne L. Watts (South Surrey—White Rock, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, minimum sentences for convicted drug traffickers who target kids under the age of 18 was recently overturned by the B.C. Court of Appeal. Our youth need to be protected from drug traffickers who directly target them.

Are the Liberals prepared to challenge this ruling?

Hon. Jody Wilson-Raybould (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, I have been tasked by the Prime Minister to undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system, including sentencing reform. We are moving forward with this review, engaging with stakeholders, engaging with experts in this area, to ensure that we provide the overall review, which has not been done for many, many years.

We will be reviewing the mandatory minimum penalties and sentences, certainly recognizing that there is a need to punish the more severe serious crimes, while ensuring that we maintain sentences that are appropriate and in line with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.