

FOIA MARKER

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JOSEPH CROWLEY
7TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3207

October 8, 1999

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The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500



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Dear Mr. President:

C0178

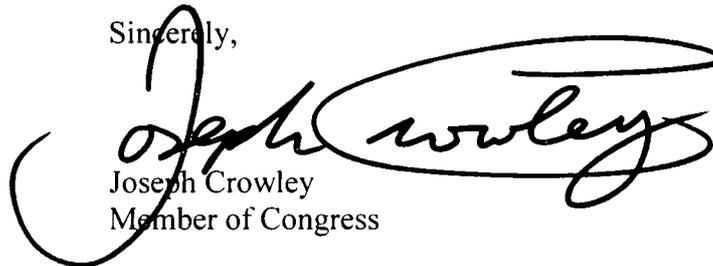
I was saddened and shocked to learn of the comments you made earlier today disparaging persons of Irish nationality and the Peace Process.

According to an Associated Press story, you were reported as comparing the participants in the Irish Peace Process to drunks unable to leave a bar who would rather fight than make peace. I can only hope that your comments were taken out of context or misreported.

As someone of Irish descent, such as yourself, who has spent considerable time and energy to move the peace process in Northern Ireland forward, I can understand your frustration with the pace of implementation of the Good Friday Agreement. However, comments, such as the ones you reportedly made, only promote outdated and outmoded stereotypes. Such statements do not move the Peace Process forward and only serve to create more opportunities for dissention.

I would hope that if the story were accurate, you would issue an apology to the people of Northern Ireland and Irish people everywhere.

Sincerely,



Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress